The Army continues hearings

to see if second man will face courtmartial in Winchell murder case.

SF voters are being asked to

approve a \$299 million bond to rebuild Laguna Honda Hospital. page 14



Vroman holiday From 'Phantom' to 'Threepenny Opera.' see Arts section



Vol. 29 • No. 36 • 9 September 1999

Serving the Gay & Lesbian Community for more than 28 years

Mora murder trial begins

by Katie Szymanski

he trial of Edgard Mora began in San Francisco Superior Court before Judge Raymond Williams on Tuesday, September 7, with lengthy testimony, disagreement over facts be-tween the prosecution and defense, and

testimony, disagreement over lacks between the prosecution and defenses, and a mostly-empty courtroom aside from Mora's family and friends.

Mora, 26, is charged with murder and a hate crime enhancement for the death of Brian Wilmes, 45, on March 12, 1998. Witnesses said that Mora called Wilmes "faggot" before punching him in front of the Loading Dock, a gay leather bar on Mission Street. Wilmes fell backward from the punch, hit his head, and died two days later. According to Wilmes's friend Timothy Carroll, who was out with Wilmes when he was attacked, Mora shook Wilmes after he was down, knocking his head against the pavement while continuing to call him "faggot." The defense denies that Mora touched Wilmes after his initial punch.

In opening arguments Tuesday propring hoth cives fevered on Mose's recognition had be defensed and mose the control of the control

Wilmes after his initial punch.

In opening arguments Tuesday morning, both sides focused on Mora's intentions, his anger, and his drunken assault spree on the night of March 12 that included attacks on a homeless man, his girlfriend, and himself.

Both sides also seemed to play to what they assumed were the jurors' notions about tags; parenting and intense that they assumed were the purors' notions about tags; parenting and intense and the second secon

what they assumed were the jurors 'notions about gays, parenting, and intoxication, with the prosecution depicting Mora as a bitter person out to hurt somebody and the defense portraying him as a down and out father who had lost his children to separation, his sister to cancer, and his job to a world that would not give him a chance.

"He wanted to better himself,' defense attorney Robert Dunlap told the jury. "And he was frustrated that day, which was the eve of his sister's birthday, and the day he was denied compensation to continue his schooling."

Prosecutor Murlene Randle said hardship was no excuse for murder,

hardship was no excuse for murder, emphasizing that Mora was aware he was a violent drunk when he made a conscious decision to consume a fifth of peppermint Schnapps on a night he was feeling angry. She pointed out that Mora was pacing, yelling, and banging on the front of a gay dance club just before saying, "You want a piece of me, faggot?" and knocking Wilmes to the ground.

"The evidence will show that Wilmes's death was the result of an unprovoked attack," Randle told the jury, "and that his sexual orientation was a substantial factor in his assault."

But Randle also painted a picture conscious decision to consume a fifth

But Randle also painted a picture for the heterosexually-oriented jury of a leather night that was unplanned and silly for Wilmes and Carroll, al-

page 12 ▶

Oakland shows all colors at Stonewall 30 events



flag hangs in the Federal Building.



Above: Women dance the night away at the Mega MIXX lesbian party at the Oakland Marriott last Saturday night.

Right: Judy Shepard, mother of slain college student Matthew Shepard, spoke at the Stonewall 30 opening ceremonies on Wednesday, September 1.

State, local pot ID proposals at odds

by Terry Beswick

wo competing proposals from state and local officials seek to create centralized registries of users of medicinal marijuana. ID cards would also be issued to users juana. ID cards would also be issued to users to prove to police that they have been certified by the local health department as a person who has been prescribed marijuana for their medical condition.

Both the state and the local programs would not require the participation of marijuana users, but some activists worry that

juana users, but some activists worry that Juana users, but some activists worry that – particularly with the state program – not having an ID card could create the appear-ance of guilt, while those who have an ID could risk loss of confidentiality, and even prosecution under state or federal law.

Under the state proposal, a database identifying people with serious and life-threaten-

ing diseases, the fact that they smoke marijuana, as well as the name of the doctor who prescribed them the weed, will be available to state law enforcement officials – the same of-ficials who led the fight against legalization of medical marijuana in California.

of medical marijuana in California.

The statewide program, Senate Bill 848, was crafted by state Senator John Vasconcellos (D-Santa Clara) and Attorney General Bill Lockyer and is supported by statewide law enforcement groups, and strongly opposed by medicinal marijuana activists. Now being pushed through the California Legislature, SB 848 proponents say the bill would help to clear up "problems and uncertainties" for law enforcement resulting from passage of Proposition 215. Several cases have been reported of harassment, prosecution, and imprisonment of people claiming to use or grow marijuana for medicinal purposes, alpage 23

by Cynthia Laird

akland's Stonewall 30 fesakland's Stonewall 30 festival concluded Monday, September 6, with a brunch following two days of partying at the Gay Mardi Gras. While organizers were generally very pleased with the five days of activities, a couple of them were scrapped at the last minute. The September I opening externations September 1 opening ceremonies at both City Hall and Lake Mer-Judy Shepard, mother of slain University of Wyoming student Matthew Shepard. The crowds that attended the

The crowds that attended the events were a diverse mix of people from Oakland, Berkeley, Walnut Creek, San Francisco, and other cities. "I think the whole week was really a success," Pete King, president and chief executive officer of East Bay Pride, told the Bay Area Reporter. "People really felt a sense of community in Oak community in Oak-

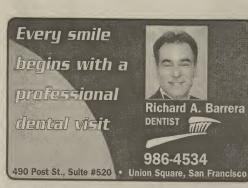
land." Shepard, who has not made many pub-lic appearances since her son's brutal murder last October, said she liked the anti-hate message Stonewall 30 organizers incorporated into the events.

"Since Matthew died, my husband and I

died, my husband and I have learned a great deal about the American people and what they believe," Shepard said. "One point is very clear, the violence must end. I am here in Oakland today because I believe that the time has come to search for answers to the question, "What can be done?"

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Sex worker clinic celebrates opening Mon.

by Liz Highleyman

his Monday, September 13, the St. James Infirmary, a multi-service healthcare agency for sex industry workers, will celebrate its opening along with the birthday of its namesake, pros-titutes' rights advocate Margo St. James. The event, co-sponsored by COYOTE (Call Off Your Old Tired Ethics) and the Exotic Dancers Alliance (EDA), will be held at the Pier 23 Cafe on the Embarcadero.

Pier 23 Cafe on the Embarcadero.
The St. James Infirmary, a longtime dream of sex worker advocates, provides a wide range of services to women, men, and transgendered people in any field of the sex industry. Services include primary medical care, acupuncture, massage therapy, mental health referrals, substance abuse counseling, peer support, abuse counseling, peer support, hepatitis B vaccinations, hormones for transgendered clients, HIV and sexually transmitted disease counseling and testing, childcare and housing referrals, legal assistance, and food provided by the San Francisco Food Bank. The

the San Francisco Food Bank. The all-volunteer staff includes nurse practitioners, a masseur, and a Chinese medicine practitioner.

The infirmary is a partnership with the city's Department of Public Health and operates out of City Clinic at 356 7th Street between Harrison and Folsom. The tween Harrison and Folsom. The St. James Infirmary is open every Wednesday on a drop-in basis from 6-9 p.m. No appointments are necessary. As finances permit, the board and staff hope to expand the clinic's hours. All services are free and confidential.

The clinic which opened in

The clinic, which opened in June, currently serves about 10 clients each week; 80 percent of the clients are women and about 20 percent are men, although the num-



Board members and staff of the St. James Infirmary

ber of men is increasing. The infirmary has begun to conduct street outreach to inform sex workers of its services. According to St. James Infirmary board member and EDA co-founder Dawn Passar, the num-

co-founder Dawn Passar, the number of clients is growing and "word is really getting out there."

The infirmary board and staff hope to provide a wider range of offerings as the clinic becomes established, including yoga classes, a resume writing workshop, and job skills training. There is already a recently started support group for male sex workers that takes place the first Wednesday of each month, starting at 7 p.m.

The St. James Infirmary is the first San Francisco healthcare organization exclusively focused on

ganization exclusively focused on sex industry workers. The only other such agency in the U.S. is

Adult Industry Medical in Los

Adult Industry Medical in Los Angeles that serves workers in the adult film industry.

Monday's event will be a fundraiser for the clinic, and donations are gratefully accepted. According to director Johanna Breyer, the infirmary operates on a "shoestring budget," and the board plans to seek foundation funding. The party will also mark the launch of the EDA's new poster campaign of the EDA's new poster campaign supporting labor organizing efforts by strippers in the city.

Monday's benefit takes place from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. For information on the clinic, call (415) 487-5500 or (415) 487-5573; for information on the male sex workers support group, call (415) 412-8700.

'Trunkful of Trannies' show to benefit GLHS

by Katie Szymanski

you haven't checked out Trannyshack lately, this Tues-day, September 14, would be a good time to don your drag or simply gather your friends for "Trunkful of Trannies," an event to benefit the Gay and Lesbian Historical Society of Northern

California (GLHS).
"Trunkful" will feature emcee
Heklina and drag artiste Timmy
Spence's theatrical parade of gender-stylists. Before and after the

show, Trannyshack guests can dance to the musical mix of DJ

Admission for "Trunkful" is Stoppen to those 21 and over. Doors open at 10 p.m.; the show starts at midnight. Proceeds go to GLHS, a San Francisco-based nonprofit that documents the history nonpront that documents the his-tory of sexual minorities and pre-sents exhibits, lectures, and trav-eling outreach to the public. GLHS board member Gerard

Koskovich said this would be the first time that a Trannyshack event has benefited the organiza-

tion.
"We're delighted to be working with them," said Koskovich. "We have been successful at securing funding and support from a variety of places, but strive to keep our roots in the community, a big part of which is the drag nightlife scene."

Trannyshack is held at the Stud bar, 399 Ninth Street, at Harrison, For more information, call GLHS at (415) 777-5455.

Health at Home seeks volunteers

by Katie Szymanski

ealth at Home, a home health agency for the Community Health Network of the San Francisco Department of Public Health, is seeking volunteers to join their team of nurses, social workers, rehabilitation therapists, and home health aides to provide care and support to people living with disabling life-threatening illnesses such as HIV/AIDS, cancer, respiratory and heart disease, and other chronic illnesses or trauma related injuries.

A volunteer training starts this Monday, September 13 and continues through September 16.
The organization is seeking individuals interested in working directly with clients in their homes, providing emotional and/or practical support. There are also opportunities for non-direct patient care, such as transporting patients to their doctors' appointments and delivering medications.

The volunteer training will include an overview of caring for individuals with life-threatening illnesses and the issues involved with giving care and support from a person's home.

support from a person's home.

Volunteer training takes place at the offices of Health at Home, 45 Onondaga, at Alemany Boulevard. Orientation and individual traini can be scheduled as needed. Call (415) 452-2161 for more information.

Queer youth shelter donation withdrawn

by Terry Beswick

fter months of behind-the-scenes negotiations, and several contentious meet-ings with neighbors of a proposed queer youth shelter in the old City Athletic Club building at 2500 Market Street, San Francisco Su-pervisor Mark Leno has an-nounced that – contrary to previ-ous reports – the owner of the building will not be donating the former gym to the city for a tem-porary youth shelter. Leno, who with Supervisor Leslie Katz has championed the shelter project, told the Bay Area Reporter last week that owner Tor Hansen called him to say that, "I] don't want to make money, but fter months of behind-the-

don't want to make money, but my lawyer says I will need some compensation."

In a statement issued by Leno's office Tuesday, September 7, Leno reported that Hansen is now asking the city for "\$2 per square foot per month, [plus] net of insur-

ance, maintenance and taxes, for the 4,000 square foot building." The minimum annual pay-ment to Hansen from the city would top \$100,000. No budget for the actual operation of the shelter has yet been released. Leno and Katz had previously secured \$250,000 in the current city budget to help pay for a guere

city budget to help pay for a queer youth shelter project. Three neighborhood meet-

ings, each attended by over 120 neighbors of the controversial shelter, have been conducted over the last month on the premise that the building was being do-nated at no cost to the city for up to two years. A 21-member com-munity advisory committee was formed, and asked by Leno to approve the draft shelter proposal, or come up with an alternative to help establish a shelter for home-

s youth before winter. According to Leno's statement, "no cost was mentioned" when Hansen initially offered the use of the building.

No estimate was available for the cost of maintenance or other expenses of operating the facility, but Laura Spanjian, an aide to Katz, estimated the cost of insur-ance and taxes at about \$1,000 per month, and added that Leno and Katz had previously obtained an estimate of about \$10,000 for capital improvements, including making the space wheelchair ac-cessible. It was not clear whether cessible. It was not clear whether that figure included installing a kitchen equipped to serve residents of the facility, which would house 25 lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning (LGBTQQ) youth between 18 and 23 years old each night. Spanjian said that remodeling would be paid for with the \$250.000 in be paid for with the \$250,000 in

city funds.
In an August 26 interview,
Hansen told the B.A.R. remodeling would be "absolutely minimal," and suitable for his use when the shelter closed. Hansen recently purchased the building

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Police crackdown on **GHB** nets four arrests

by Ed Walsh

an Francisco police made four arrests over the Labor Day weekend for possession and possession for sale of the drug gamma hydroxy butyrate acid (GHB) as part of an undercover (GHD) as part or all influence over surveillance operation aimed at South of Market (SOMA) clubs. As the *Bay Area Reporter* first re-ported last week, four men from two SOMA gay clubs had to be rushed to San Francisco General Hospital after overdosing on the drug in two separate incidents over the August 28-29 weekend.

Police Lieutenant Kitt Crenshaw told the B.A.R. the Labor Dayweek-

end operation was part of the nar-cotics unit's ongoing crackdown on GHB use in and around SOMA clubs. Crenshaw said the operation was made up of six undercover of ficers and would continue.
"We've been trying to get the

word out about how dangerous his stuff is," said Crenshaw. 'Maybe the possibility of doing some jail time may deter some people."

Crenshaw said three of the

four people arrested could face sentences of two to three years in prison. The fourth could face an eight year sentence, Crenshaw said, because he was also found

said, because he was also found with various other narcotics.

Crenshaw wouldn't disclose which clubs officers surveyed last weekend but said all were in SOMA and the arrests were made "at more than one club." Crenshaw said none of the four who were arrested were from San Francisco. All, he said, were from the East Bay or South Bay.

Francisco, All, he said, were from the East Bay or South Bay. Crenshaw added that because GHB dealers are aware of police surveillance inside the clubs, most deals are negotiated inside the club but the actual transactions take place outside.

Crenshaw said GHB use isn't any more prevalent in gay clubs than in straight clubs and the po-lice crackdown is not focused on any particular group of people but is designed to head off a dangerous trend.

"It's all part of a new fad to ward designer type drugs," said Crenshaw, adding that police have observed a huge increase in GHB

use over the past two years.

GHB has led to more than 40 reported deaths nationwide since 1995. In San Francisco, four deaths in the past two years have been linked to GHB use, according to San Francisco Medical Examiner Dr. Boyd Stephens who told the B.A.R. that in all four

told the B.A.R. that in all four deaths, the users had combined GHB with alcohol or other drugs. Health experts warn that GHB's chemical cousin, GBL (gamma butyrolactone), metabolizes into GHB when ingested and is just as dangerous.

e. neger, m



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Bodfish and son both wanted to die, former therapist says

by Ed Walsh

ransgender murder victim and longtime Orinda resident Emmon Bodfish died wealthy and like his son, Max Wills, died very depressed. According to Wills's trustee and former thera-pist, Bodfish's relationship with his on was bonded with one common

wish: they both wanted to die.

In an exclusive interview with the Bay Area Reporter, Katherine Yates, Wills's former therapist, says she believes the most likely explanation for Bodfish's murder is that Bodfish hired someone to kill himself.

Yates also believes it's possible but unlikely that Wills killed his mother so that he would feel free to kill himself.

"They both had this romantic attraction to death," Yates told the B.A.R. "They seemed like Siamese twins fused around depression." Yates says Wills loved his moth-

rates says with loved his moti-er very deeply and couldn't bear the thought of hurting her through his own death. When Wills talked with Yates about the possibility of killing himself, he said he would make his death look like an accident so it would be easier for his mother to cope with the loss.

cope with the loss.

Bodfish was found bludgeoned to death in his Orinda home on June 30. Wills was told of Bodfish's death that same day while he was vacationing in Southern California. Hours later he checked into a Santa Monica hotel where he killed himself. Police say Wills is not considered a suspect but they still can't rule him out as a potential suspect.

potential suspect.

As the B.A.R. first reported last week, Bodfish friend Willow Oak Istarwood said she was told by po-lice that Bodfish had recently bought enough narcotics to kill himself and was asked by police if he could have ordered his own murder. Istarwood said that was inconceivable to her, especially considering the agonizing death Bodfish appeared to have suffered. Istarwood said although Bodfish was depressed, she's con-vinced the most likely explanation for his murder is that he fell vic-tim to a hate crime.

A Hemlock Society book on suicide had been found in Bod-fish's home. One of Bodfish's former neighbors from Marin City told the B.A.R. that she once saw an oversized envelope addressed to Bodfish outside of their devel-

opment's mailboxes from the "Church of Euthanasia."
Orinda police Sergeant Mark Hale said that although Bodfish may have had a "curiosity" or interest in suicide, investigators have terest in suicide, investigators have no evidence to suggest that he so-licited his own killing or was on the verge of suicide. Hale added that police have no evidence that would lead them to believe that Bodfish

lead them to believe that Bodhsh was the victim of a hate crime.

Wills, 33, would have inherited \$180,000 from the trust fund left to him by his grandmother when he turned 35, according to Yates, who added that when Wills drew up his trust fust over a year. drew up his trust just over a year ago, he made no mention of that inheritance. "It was very odd," said Yates. "It was as if he never

thought he would reach 35."
Aside from his prospective inheritance, Yates said Wills died "completely broke." Wills's trust designated beneficiaries of many small sentimental items, Yates said.
Yates describes Wills as "very sweet" and an all-around nice guy.

She believes the most likely sce-nario for his suicide is that he was overwhelmed and distraught over his mother's death, and finally with her death, felt free to fulfill his own wish to die. Yates said she doesn't believe Wills had the capacity to kill his mother or anyone else.

"Max was unlike most people who are depressed. He didn't withdraw, he stayed connected with people," said Yates. Wills had a close circle of friends who maintain a website in his honor. The site includes pictures of Wills and remembrances from friends along with news articles about the case.

By contrast, Bodfish became ex-tremely reclusive in the years before his death. "Her son was about the only person she ever saw," said Bodfish's lawyer and executor Garrett Riegg. Riegg uses feminine pro-nouns when referring to Bodfish because Bodfish always presented

himself to Riegg as a woman. Yates found a letter Bodfish wrote to his son dated June 24, wrote to his son dated June 24, 1999, two or three days before Bodfish was likely killed. It was unopened and was being held at the post office along with other mail while Wills was on vacation. Yates kept a copy of the letter before passing it along to the police. In it Bodfish asks Wills to move out of his Marin City town-

ing. Yates says the request would be nothing new to Wills because he was used to moving in and out of Bodfish's three homes.

Bodfish said he wanted to move to Marin City because he believed the air was less toxic there. Neighbors at his Mill Valley home told the *B.A.R.* that when they saw Bodfish last on June 20 he was

Bodfish last on June 20 he was upset and was asking if any of the neighbors were using chemicals.

"I can't take this," Bodfish wrote to his son explaining who he wanted to move back.

Bodfish gave Wills until September 1 to move.

The letter also reveals Rodfish's

tember 1 to move.

The letter also reveals Bodfish's deep depression. "I just want to escape, get away from the pain in this body," Bodfish wrote. "I just want to slip into nothingness where no one can drag me out and torture me some more."

Bodfish signed the letter "I over the property of the proper

Bodfish signed the letter, "Love

ou, Mom." Yates first counseled Wills in her capacity as a licensed Mar-riage, Family, and Child Coun-selor (MFCC) in 1991. She later referred him to a psychiatrist be-cause she thought he would benefit from antidepressant drugs. When Wills drew up his trust, he enlisted Yates as his trustee.

Yates recalls Wills telling her "I don't feel like I belong in this world." Those are the same words Wills used during a pensive mo-ment when he took a walk with a neighbor in an area near his home overlooking the Marin Headlands.
Just two weeks later, Wills followed his mother out of this world.



Wes Meekins, left, and his partner David Wagner at the Corner Cafe.

Gay San Leandro business sponsors gay potluck Sun.

by Cynthia Laird

wo gay men who opened the only gay business in the San Leandro area are giving back to the community this Sunday,

to the community this Sunday, September 12, when they sponsor the third annual "Gay and Lesbian Potluck Social in Sally Andro." The event will benefit the HIV clinic at Fairmont Hospital.

Wes Meekins and his partner David Wagner own and operate the Corner Cafe, a quaint coffee house located at 1600 Fairmont Drive. "Since we have been here, we have had great support from we have had great support from the gay community," Meekins said, adding that the Corner Cafe opened last August 22. Sunday's daylong picnic

potluck will feature live entertainment by the Fundudes, Karie Hillery, the Westerlys, Tiana Noyes, Geoffrey Welchman, and Elena Powell. A \$5 per person donation is requested and people are asked to bring lawn chairs, something to grill, and a dish to share. Non-alcoholic beverages will be provided. Activities will include softball, vol-

leyball, cards, and other games.

The day starts at 10 a.m., with the barbecue getting fired up at noon. ▼

The potluck social takes place at Chabot Park in San Leandro, near Estudillo Avenue and near Estudillo Avenue and Sylvan Circle. For more information, call Joe Ray at (510) 568-0201, or the Corner Cafe at (510) 278-8855.

Donald Abrams named new GLMA president

by Terry Beswick

r. Donald Abrams assumed the presidency of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association (GLMA) on August 28 at the national organization's 17th annual symposium in San Diego. Abrams, 49, was elected to lead the 2,000-member GLMA for a

one-year term.

A charter member of the local affiliate of GLMA, the Bay Area arminate of GLMA, the Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights (BAPHR), Abrams is widely known as both an AIDS re-searcher and a primary care physician.

physician.

Founded in 1981, the San
Francisco-based GLMA is an association of lesbian, gay, bisexual,
and transgender (LGBT) physicians, medical students, and their supporters in all 50 states and 12

countries.

"GLMA works to combat homophobia within the medical profession and in society at large; and to promote quality health care for LGBT and HIV-positive people," said Abrams.

people, said Abrams.
Among Abrams's goals over
the next year are to open an office
in Washington, D.C. to extend
greater influence on policy-makers, to organize a Lesbian Health Summit in conjunction with the April 2000 March on Washington, and to expand the organization's



Dr. Donald Abrams

membership and physician refer-

membership and program.

The "party drug" scene is of special concern to Abrams, who told the Bay Area Reporter that he "lost a dear, dear friend to the ravages of speed."

Abrams said he is particularly

ages of speed."

Abrams said he is particularly concerned about the long-term effects of popular drugs such as crystal methamphetamine (speed), ecstasy, ketamine, and gamma hydroxy butyrate acid (CHB) or the burge beds and concerned to the control of the contro (GHB) on the human body, and that not enough is known about ways to treat addiction to these drugs. "Do we have any idea what this generation of our community is doing to their serotonin stores?" he rhetorically asked the GLMA members in San Diego.

Abrams, who is currently con-Abrams, who is currently conducting the only federally funded research on medical marijuana, told the B.A.R. that he has attempted to interest the National Institutes of Health in funding research on party drugs, but was told that they felt the problem was a "coastal phenomenon." Since then, GLMA has been in contact with the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy in an effort to secure funding for public service announcements warning of the dangers of speed and other drugs. Abrams reported that these discussions have ed that these discussions have been encouraging; he hopes to se-cure funding for GLMA-pro-duced videos that specifically tar-get the gay community. "It's reminiscent of the early days

of the HIV epidemic. We're counting the bodies before anyone stops to recognize there's a problem,' Abrams commented. "I don't like

Abrams community decimated. I've already been there once."

Abrams, who is celebrating five years with his partner Clint Werner, is assistant director of AIDS programs at San Francisco General Homital, professor of clinical. al Hospital; professor of clinical medicine at the University of Cal-ifornia, San Francisco; and prin-cipal investigator and chairman of the Community Consortium, a community-based AIDS research organization. ▼





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Popular queer lecture series starts Tuesday

by Terry Beswick

five-lecture fall series on the influence of the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer, or questioning (GLBTQQ) community on San Francisco neighborhoods, co-sponsored by the Gayand Lesbian Historical Society Gay and Lesbaan Historica society (GLHS) of Northern California and Castro Area Planning and Ac-tion (CAPA), begins this Tuesday, September 14, with a talk by GLHS archivist Willie Walker discussing 'Queer Sites in San Francisco." Walker told the Bay Area Re

porter that his lecture would survey the history of gay San Francisco going back to the Barbary Coast days of the "North Beach/Tenderloin," the rise of the Polk in the 1960s, the demise of the gay Embarcadero, as well as the queer South of Market, the Haight and the Mission. The gay migration to the Castro will also

Why study queer history? "When we have historical context, it is much easier to plan for the fu-ture," said CAPA President Joe

Other lectures in the series, which will continue every other which will continue every other Tuesday evening through Novem-ber 9, include Susan Stryker fo-cusing on "The Tenderloin: San Francisco's Gayest Neighbor-hood," Paul Gabriel on "North Beach: the Black Cat, Jose Sarria, and the Rise of the Imperial Court," Gayle Rubin taking a close look at "Folsom Street: San Fran-cisco's Miracle Mile," and Martin Meeker with an analysis of "Gay and Lesbian Migration to San Francisco." ▼

Lectures begin at 7 p.m. at the Harvey Milk Academy at 4235 19th Street (at Collingwood). Suggested donation is \$3. For more information, call (415) 522-1221.

Free legal clinic for queer immigrants

by Katie Szymanski

he San Francisco Bay Area Lesbian and Gay Immigra-tion and Asylum Rights tion and Asylum Rights Task Force is sponsoring a free legal clinic for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) immigrants this Wednesday, September 15, from 6 to 9 p.m. The clinic will have immigration attorneys on hand to address em-

ployment and domestic partnership benefits in San Francisco and the United States, political asylum for LGBT people, avenues to citi-zenship, and other issues. Appointments for Wednes-

day's clinic are preferred, but not

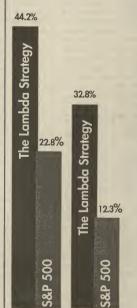
necessary.

The clinic will be held at the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission office, 1360 Mission St., 2nd floor. Call (415) 392-6257 for a consultation.

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Gay pride in Oakland

t was satisfying to see healthy crowds enjoying Stonewall 30 events in Oak-land. Most importantly, the diversity of the East Bay was clearly evident during the opening ceremonies at Lake Merritt, the lesbian dance party, and the Gay Mardi Gras last Saturday and Sunday. While obvi-ously not as well-attended as San Francisously not as wein-attended as 3 and refarces os gay Pride events, the mix of party-goers clearly showed Oakland can support les-bian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) ac-tivities and we look forward to next year's Gay Mardi Gras.

Oakland is one of the Bay Area's most diverse cities and while the City Council is made up of people from diverse back-grounds, the one major group missing from that board is LGBT representation. Kriss Worthington, Berkeley's openly gay city councilmember, used Stonewall 30 to city councilmember, used Stonewall 30 to tell people that the time has come for Oak-land to elect a qualified queer person to of-fice. He won two years ago (and easily won re-election last year). And another East Bay city – Hayward – also has an openly gay councilmember, Kevin Dowling. San Fran-cisco, as most people know, has two gay men and a lesbian on the Board of Super-visors, as well as gay representation on the visors, as well as gay representation on the school board and community college

board.
"I'm lonely," Worthington said, referring
to the lack of queer representation in Oak-land, the city next door to Berkeley. He
spoke of the need for a gay or lesbian per-son of color to be elected to the Oakland City Council. "We've had a little success electing gay white men, but we need to work extra hard to elect people of diverse backgrounds," Worthing-

Just think how much strong gay events in Oakland could

gay events in Oakland could be with the help of gay or lesbian elected officials there.

And speaking of a stronger gay event, we encourage Gay Mardi Gras organizers to start planning now for next year's festival.

Each of the last three Gay

Mardi Gras events was held on a different rdi Gras events was held on a different weekend in September. Having the event next Labor Day weekend would establish consistency and if people know in advance that it will be happening, maybe more would put it on their list of "must do" events. It would also help attendance if the \$7 per

person admission charge could be reduced or scrapped alto-gether so that more people could afford to attend.



Editorial

Remember your grandparents this Sunday

by Kirsten Kingdon

was at a conference, surrounded by peo ple I wanted to meet, and thinking of all the things I needed to do. Suddenly, I felt like I was alone in the room with this proud grandmother from Orange County, California.

fornia.

"And these are my grandchildren." She rummaged through her wallet, becoming excited. "My son and his partner are the best parents. These little boys have just thrived since they adopted them."

I looked at the photos of her healthy, grinning grandchildren, and I smiled. I remembered my reacher and the total Lenart here.

ning grandchildren, and I smiled. I remembered my mother, and the toast I gave at her 80th birthday party. She had handled my son's coming out the way I wish I could have. I remembered a trip to Minneapolis several years ago, when my mother took my son and I to Spirit of the Lakes, a church with a large gay and lesbian congregation. She had been deeply affected by a play on coming out that the church's acting troupe performed, and wanted to attend a service with us.

When my son, Jim, came out to me, I

When my son, Jim, came out to me, I couldn't reach out to my mother. I was acutely ashamed, hurt, guilty, and grief-stricken. I made sure Jim knew I loved him, but I thought homosexuality was like an addiction – something to be fought. I was not able to be a good mother to Jim at a time when he badly needed one. Fortunately, in my confusion, I turned to Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG). I talked with other families, read volumes of books, and prayed.

left-handedness than addiction. I also learned that it was Jim's decision whether to tell other family members. When he made it clear that he would like us to tell people, I still hesitated. Finally, after three years, I told my mother. I'm not sure what I expected, but she reacted with interest, support, and

Curiosity.

Her love helped me continue the process of not just accepting Jim, but supporting him and speaking out for gay, lesbian, bisex-ual, transgender (GLBT) equality and inclu-sion. Today – three years after my mother

This Sunday, September 12, is National Grandparent's Day, Some people will send cards to their grandparents. Others will remember them fondly. I suspect that most people – particularly GLBT people – will not celebrate the day, for one reason or another.

other.

Many people believe that grandparents would not be supportive if they knew they had a gay grandchild. They haven't met Lillian Wolfe. Lillian marches in Dallas' Gay Pride Parade with her daughter and gay grandson, Jerrod. She regularly attends PFLAG Dallas meetings, sharing her family's story and supporting others. Lillian attends the Metropolitan Community Church, and she has been to several same-sex commitment cerseveral same-sex commitment cer-

Several years ago, when Lillian's daughter told her Jerrod is gay, Lil-lian responded, "Is that all?" She suspected her daughter had cancer, since such a big deal was made of the **Guest Opinion**

ong deal was made of the announcement. As isoften the case with grandparents, Lillian had long suspected that Jerrod was gay.
Young people are coming out at much earlier ages, which often means their grandparents are still alive. Still, some families be-lieve there's no point in coming out to grandparents, but decide instead to let them

grandparents, but decide instead to let them live out their lives assuming what they may. They haven't met Kathryn Steffensen. Kathryn describes herself as "an ordi-nary little gray-haired Mormon lady." A retired elementary school teacher and active member of PFLAG Salt Lake City, she never considered herself an activist. But last year, anti-gay groups organized in Kathryn's granddaughter's school – and Kathryn, who has a gay son, went into action. She met with the school district superintendent, and discovered what she calls "the power of

discovered what she calls the power of grandparents."

More and more grandparents are discovering what Kathryn did – that they have the power to open hearts and change minds. Sometimes that means speaking out publicly. But more often, it's ordinary ex-

For 21 years, Tim Gillean's grandmother has changed the world – simply by loving

when Tim, a member of PFLAG Tulsa, came out in the 1970s, his grandmother assured him that she loved him. She told him that she loved him that he was gay, which led her closer to him because the transport of the transport of the transport him that he was gay, which led her closer to him because she knew society would not access him. knew society would not accept him

Tim's grandmother still attends the Free Will Baptist Church. She has gradually reached the conclusion that her church is wrong in its beliefs on homosexuality. On more than one occasion, she has pulled the

preacher aside to reprimand him for being too harsh toward GLBT people. Day in and day out, she shares stories about her gay grandson and interrupts her friends or neighbors when

they make anti-gay comments.
The Gilleans and the Stef-fensens and the Wolfes pinion will probably spend this Sunday like any other. They may remember that it is National Grandparent's Day. But more than likely, they will laugh together and

learn from each other just as they do every

It will be just another Sunday in my home, too. But at some point during the day, I will find the last letter my son wrote to his grandmother – the letter I took with me when I rushed to be by her side after a mas-

"Dear Grandma: I probably don't say this often enough, but I just wanted to let you know how much I love and admire you.

you know now much itowe and admire you. I remember things such as your interest in Spirit of the Lakes ..."

That letter is among my most treasured possessions, for I will always know what it really says: "Dear Grandma: Thank you for supporting me, accepting that I am different, and loving me no differently."

Kirsten Kingdon - a grandmother herself is the national executive director of PFLAG

LETTERS

Cancellation of Fallon Building benefit

Thump Radio attempted to throw a dance party on Saturday, August 28 at Custer Avenue Stages which was to jointly benefit the restoration of the Fallon Building for the Community Center Project and the Boom Town Village at Burning Man.

Unfortunately, due to some improper permit planning and the uncooperative efforts of the hierarchy of the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD), this event was canceled in the 11th hour leaving a loss to Thump Radio of \$11,302.07.

I had previously teamed up with Blue Room.

I had previously teamed up with Blue Room Records to produce a similar event on New Year's Eve which did produce a \$7,000 donation for the Fallon

Which did produce a \$7,000 donation for the Fahon Building.

Using the same procedure and with the help of elected officials, I obtained fire department permit #992112 for this event.

As I had previously thrown the successful New Year's Eve benefit at this location without a police permit and with the police actually escorting patrons to the door of the venue, I wrongly assumed the same planning would work this time.

Our problems began when Custer Stages called the police two weeks ago to inform them of our event. We were told three separate police permits would be needed. With the help of elected officials, we were told once again that these types of events happen there often and there shouldn't be a problem.

On Wednesday afternoon, I received a fax from Captain Roth of the Bayview Station calling our event an illegal "rave" party and that no permit would be given.

Ironically, the only thing making it illegal was their refusal to grant me a permit for this well-planned event.

With the help of several members of

With the help of several members of the Board of Supervisors and mayoral aides, I pleaded our case up to Acting Chief Sanders. On Thursday night at 10:30 p.m., I spoke with Chief Sanders and he told me everything looked good. I also received calls from elected officials telling me it was a done deal in my favor. I was to hear from Chief Sanders first thing on Friday marning.

morning.

Under the assumption that everything was fine, I continued to order items and spend money on the

event.

At 3:30 p.m. Friday, I received a message from the fire department that I would need to get the police permits to them before 4 p.m. that day or my fire permit would be canceled.

With only 30 minutes until cancellation, I raced to 850 Bryant Street to meet with Chief Sanders. I was kept waiting until 4 p.m., so my fire permit was revoked. I believe the hierarchy of the SFPD did not want this event to happen. I also believe that they conspired with San Francisco Fire Department officials to have me sitting there waiting until the close of the business Friday afternoon so that it would be impossible for me to get my supporters in various impossible for me to get my supporters in various government agencies to come to my rescue once

I sincerely apologize to anyone who had hoped to see this concert. The musicians all flew in from London and were also disappointed to not be able to perform for their fans.

Many thanks to the people who tried to help. The

staff of the Community Center Project, the staffs of Supervisor Mark Leno, Tom Ammiano and Leslie Katz, and a big thank you to Bevan Dufty of the mayor's office.
Once again, I apologize to everyone for my permit

mistakes and call on everyone to ask for a clear poli-cy to be made by the city that allows "rave parties" to become legal.

To my knowledge, there has not been a legal rave outside of a nightclub in San Francisco for many years. We are responsible adults and should deserve the right to dance and throw responsible benefit par-

Jim Siegal, Thump Radio

Mayoral 'debate' excluded candidate

On the eve of the 60th anniversary of the official beginning of World War II when the Nazis invaded Poland, September 1, 1939, the Raoul Wallenberg Jewish Democratic Club has a private party for the mayoral candidates of the rich, falsely labeled as a "deinayona candidates of the rich, fastey asceled as a de-bate," excluding the only woman and working-class candidate, Lucrecia Bermúdez. World War II was of course the period of the Holocaust, when 6 million of the 9 million Jews residing in Europe were mur-dered by the Nazis, including a member of my fami-

The Wallenberg Club clearly has failed to learn the lessons of history, as described in the great American classic novel, *Jews Without Money* by Mike Gold, which includes the fact that since labor creates all wealth, it is the working-class candidates who are the most viable and thus must always be given top prior-

ity in any political forum.

It is also clear that the Wallenberg Club is rejecting

the Jewish working-class culture, as exemplified in the famous poem on the Statute of Liberty, "The New Colossus" by Emma Lazarus, which has as its grand finale, the universal welcome to all:
"Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,
Llift my lamp beside the golden door!"

I lift my lamp beside the golden door!

Lee Heller San Francisco

No room for disrespect of city leaders

The attack on Supervisor Mark Leno's character in the August 26 Bay Area Reporter [Mailstrom] was another fine example of how the queer community treats its leaders. It is curious to me that as Supervisor Leno advocates for our queer youth, his character is maligned. I have found Mark Leno to be a man of integrity and compassion who regards his oath of public service as a responsibility to serve all the people of our city. While there is room for political disagreement, there is no room for the constant barrage of disrespect for our elected officials, our leaders, and of disrespect for our elected officials, our leaders, and each other.

G. Penny Nixon, Co-Pastor Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco

Leno has earned respect

I am writing in response to the letter (August 26) concerning Supervisor Mark Leno's leadership abilities.

As a board member of the Raoul Wallenberg Jewish Democratic Club and a former board

wish Democratic Club and a former board member of the National Women's Political Caucus, I have known and admired Supervisor Leno as an activist and advocate for several years. He has earned a great amount of respect throughout the city because of his integrity and empathy. He listens to citizens, including myself about the concerns of the reights.

Mailstrom self, about the concerns of the neighborhood. And he follows up by crafting collaborative solutions.

As a resident of the Castro/Noe neighborhood, I encourage those who disagree with Supervisor Leno to meet with him, rather than simply name-calling because you find fault with his positions. I'm sure you won't be disappointed with the opportunity to engage in thoughtful dialogue with him.

The color of money

AIDS organizations like the GodFather Fund are closed. San Francisco General Hospital's Ward 5 is closed. Organizations like Project Open Hand have closed. Organizations like Project Open Hand have resorted to accessing services for the elderly and disabled due to lack of clients. San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Project Inform, Under One Roof, and the AIDS Memorial Quilt have all had to downsize and move their offices. The numbers of AIDS cases are so diminished that San Francisco's Department of Public Health has resorted to a bogus "syphilis alert" in order to justify their bigoted, retrograde, homophobic policies concerning gay bathhouses. Nobody is dying of AIDS, nobody is taking the drugs, but we are supposed to be crazy for saying AIDS is over.

phobic policies concerning gay bathhouses. Nobody is dying of AIDS, nobody is taking the drugs, but we are supposed to be crazy for saying AIDS is over. Frank Lester's knee jerk dismissal [Mailstrom, September 2.] of ACT UP/SF's position as "a class based sense of entitlement" is nothing more than p.c. blather. As a group ACT UP/SF has not come by their conclusions on HIV and AIDS lightly. By experience, branded as HIV-positive gay men, Michael Bellefountaine, David Pasquarelli, and Ronnie Burk are the authorities on HIV and survival, not Pat Christen, Martin Delaney, Sandra Thurman, Nancy Pelosi, or other AIDS industry has beens. Although HIV brainwashed Uncle Tom's like to invoke their skin tone in defense of AIDS Inc., such "people of color" are invariably interested in one color, and one color only, that's the color of money. Lacking any critical analysis, such people avoid the most important question confronting the whole HIV/AIDS conundrum, a question that should concern all people supposedly advocating for minority communities. If AIDS is an "epidemic," as AIDS industry officials would have us believe, then why after 15 years of this "HIV virus" are minority and mostly impoverished people disproportionately affected? The answer to this question is self-evident, AIDS is not a viral epidemic. Viral epidemics affect the general population without regard to class, race, or sexual preference. This is a very important point for both the Latino and African American communities who are now being targeted by the AIDS industry as "the next wave." At a time when social services and adequate health care are simply not available, it is important to question the motives of cial services and adequate health care are simply not available, it is important to question the motives of

these utterly corrupt officials.

Unable to come up with the withered AZT cadavers of the late 1980s, those who would have us believe "the next wave is coming" have to go to Africa to continue their media hyped, fear driven hysteria. We are

next page

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Rodney Karr, Ph.D.

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Mailstrom

previous page

not alone in pointing out that the problems existing in Africa are ones of malnutrition, poor sanitation, and internecine war: the direct effects of Western colonization. If the West were truly interested in "ending AIDS in Africa," a concerted effort by the world community to end hunger on the continent would be implemented. Instead we are supposed to believe that countries in need of rice can solve their problems with coffers of toxic pills. Such illogical greed-based lunacy may float among racist Western bureaucrats, but it does not work with people who have been subjected to centuries of exploitation and slavery. It took the U.S. government 50 years to apologize to the African American community over the inhumane syphilis experiments conducted on black men in Tuskeegee, Alabama. We do not have 50 years for the U.S. keegee, Alabama. We do not have 50 years for the U.S. government to admit they are wrong about HIV and AIDS. For this reason, ACT UP/San Francisco has in-AIDS. For this reason, AC 107/3ain Francisco has intensified its direct action strategies and its outreach campaign to spread the word – HIV does not cause AIDS, AIDS is over. On September 23 from 7 to 9, m. ACT UP/SF in conjunction with members of the National People's Democratic Uhuru Movement are presenting a community panel and forum on the sub-ject of AIDS in Africa. Come judge for yourself at U.C. Extension's Richardson Hall, 55 Laguna at Mar-Use Extension's Relatitustin Hall, 39 Laguna at Mark ket Street in San Francisco. For more information, call us at (415) 864-6686. We invite Frank Martinez Lester, Veneita L. Porter, and other critics of ACT UP/SF to attend. The word is out and people need to get used to it, AIDS is over.

Ronnie Burk For the general body of ACT UP/SF

Homeless resort and spa

Homeless resort and spa

The letter of Messrs. Uscier and Tombe (August 26) accurately expresses the feelings of many neighborhood residents about having a homeless shelter in the former City Athletic Club. True ... how could one discriminate as to the actual age and sexuality of those who come to this new Homeless Country Club? Any youthful-looking person of the heterosexual inclination could enter and say, "Hi! It's midnight, and I'm a 20 year old homeless queer." And the staff would say "Welcome! Here's a key. Just put your stuff into one of the lockers; take a shower in the mixed sex open shower area, and then enjoy luxuriating in the Jacuzzi. After your Jacuzzi, you can enjoy the intimacy of the sauna — a great place for shooting up drugs. If you wouldn't enjoy being naked in the sauna with anyone of the opposite sex (remember, we have the same facilities for everyone), you can always shoot up in the intimate lavatory room upstairs. And be sure to invite your buddies to enter through the back door. In the morning, you and our other 40 guests can just stroll across the street to panhandle. Hundreds of generous people use the Muni Metro station. Even if you're out all night, and don't return here 'til 4 a.m., don't worry. You can sleep all day and then panhandle the communeters returning from work in the evening, And the hell with the taxpaying residents dle the commuters returning from work in the evening. And the hell with the taxpaying residents and merchants. After all, we are here to serve you, 24 hours a day, every day of the year!"

> John J. Sucre, Donald P. Kambic San Francisco

Wanted: Dialogue on the Castro

This letter is written in the hope that the community at large will begin a dialogue regarding the influx of chain stores into the Castro. I believe that this is a crucial time for our neighborhood and all sides on

September is shaping up to be the month of change. We are battling, it seems, three major influences at the same time. We have Supervisors Leno and Katz urging us to demonstrate compassion and accept a new quasi-permanent queer youth shelter in the old City Athletic Club building. At the same time, the Pottery Barn is champing at the bit to make use of our economically strong neighborhood by positioning a 12,000 plus square foot retail space within a half block of the proposed shelter. And, the other day, the real estate department of the Gap contacted me regarding their interest in the Castro.

What are we to do?

Are we about to lose the uniqueness of the Castro to national chains? Are we going to sell the soul of the gay crossroads of the world for a few pieces of silver? What do we tell the tourists from Middle America when they come to the Castro to find a compassion-ate shelter surrounded by the same cookie cutter im-ages they can find in their own backyards? Do we say sorry, corporate America now owns the soul of this neighborhood? Or do we stand up and say we are not neignormood: Or do we stand up and say we are not going to let the direction and future of our neighborhood be changed without our input? Never before in the 12 years during which I have been a businessman in this neighborhood have I felt so under siege; not even in the darkest days of the aggressive panhandling and professional homeless controversy did I feel as out of sorts with the future as I do right now

The deep pockets of cookie cutter corporate America are banging at the gate. Do we lay down and play dead or do we say we don't want to be another Chestnut Street?

Chestnut Street?

I, for one, am not ready to go quietly into the night. I enjoy giving tourists the pleasure of seeing something they don't have "back home." Are we up to the task of controlling our future? I believe so. But now is the time for everyone to pull together towards that end or we might just as well move to the 'burbs because it seems to me that the 'burbs are more than willing to prove here.

willing to move here.

As a result of the small business and residential mix this is a neighborhood; which in turn becomes the fabric of the city of San Francisco. If we don't watch out we're going to lose it. And that would be a

Let the dialogue begin!

Patrick Batt, President Merchants of Upper Market and Castro

Homeless queer youth deserve solution

The gay youth shelter meeting in the Castro on August 5 that was held in the vacant City Athletic Club building raised many important issues. It was obvious by the discussion that everyone on some level cares about our queer homeless youth. The big (and divisive) question is that of location. As attractive as the City Athletic Club building is with its vicinity to Castro Street and its shower/locker facilities, it is also unfortunately located in a residential neighborhood and many homeowners and residents rightfully be-lieve this temporary (18 months) facility will create many quality-of-life problems for the neighborhood and its residents.

and its residents.

A simple solution exists. Incorporate a 50-bed homeless queer youth shelter within the new Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Community Center Building.

Why it makes logical sense: 1) Gays have already donated/invested millions of dollars to build this "taste of the art" gay community enter for all of us.

donated/invested millions of dollars to build this state of the art" gay community center for all of us. 2) The building hasn't actually been built yet so the plan could be redrawn to include a 50-bed shelter for our queer youth. 3) The queer youth could access services right in the building. 4) The building is already in a location that would create minimal homeowner/neighborhood disruption.

The sure the Community Center Project board will resist this surgestion as an encroachment on their turf.

resist this suggestion as an encroachment on their turf but I encourage them to weigh the genuine benefits of such an incorporation and that they be willing to look at the opportunity this solution provides for the en-tire gay community not only to make a dent in the gay homeless youth situation but to provide a model for the rest of the country of what a "community" center really should be about.

I personally don't want another bright new building with overpriced "nonprofit" staff providing questionable "services" to our community. I want a community center that is a "working" community center that cares about all its members and not just its wealthy and affluent members that can donate a \$500 brick with their name on it or write a check for

My concern is for the future. I want a long term solution to taking care of our queer young people. What are the reasons that the LGBT Community Center can't or won't consider this idea? 1) They might have to change their plans. 2) They might have might have to change their plans. 2) They might have to hire an extra person or two to monitor the youth at night. 3) They might have to deal with some added liability. 4) They're breaking ground soon and it would disrupt the "timeline" for this "amazing" gay center. 5) They'll question what kind of person is being invited into their pristine, state-of-the-art "community center."

Some reasons that it would be worthwhile for the

Some reasons that it would be worthwhile for the LGBT Community Center board to consider this op-tion is that it can potentially provide many additional funding and fundraising sources. 1) Money that would be going to fund an outside queer youth shelter could now be funneled directly into the gay comqueer homeless youth including residents, home-owners, and business people in the Castro who don't want them on their front doorsteps can be asked to done money to a solution. I believe 50 beds at the LGBT Community Center will make a small dent in the problem of homelessness in this city and in our Castro neighborhood specifically but I challenge anyone to come up with another solution that could sessions the same through t riously work

Harvey Milk said it over and over "we gotta give 'em hope!" I believe there is no better hope than our San Francisco gay community working together with the LGBT Community Center board and embracing the needs of all in our community and providing a safe space (off the streets) for queer young people to grow and learn and eventually lead our queer community into the next century.

> Shawn O'Hearn San Francisco

Gore aiming to win early

by Wayne Friday

hile former New Jersey Senator Bill Bradley for-mally announced his year-old candidacy for the Demo-cratic presidential nomination this week, Vice President Al Gore, the only other announced Demo-cratic candidate, was planning to win his party's nomination and put Bradley out of the contest by perhaps as early as the New Hampshire primary in February 2000. The vice president leads Bradley nationwide by a wide margin in opinion polls, though he and Bradley are running neck and neck in New Hampshire, according to a Boston Globe/WBZ-TV poll.

Globe/WBZ-TV poll. Gore supporters are confident that with a win in Iowa, followed by an-other win in New Hampshire, the contest for the presidential nomina

tion will be all

over by the time the big states like California and New York hold their primaries in March 2000.

Our Man Friday

Iowa's caucus precedes New Hampshire's February first-in-the-nation primary and Gore's organization in Iowa is impressive. Iowa U.S. Senator Tom Harkin, one of the state's most popular politicos, recently en-dorsed Gore; Christie Vilsack dorsed Gore; Christie Vilsack, wife of Iowa's equally popular governor, Tom Vilsack, has been actively involved in the Gore efforts and as a result of having gotten a jump of several months on the Bradley campaign. Gore has also been successful in getting the support of Iowa unions representing auto workers, mail handlers, and carpenters. Gore also has the bulk of the support of the Democratic Party machine in Democratic Party machine in lowa, and nearly 25 percent of the Democratic delegates are the ones who will choose the party's nominee at the national convention

Not only is Gore poised to win the Iowa caucus, but his organiza-tion and support in New Hamp-shire is equally impressive. Eleven of the 13 Democrats in the state Senate have endorsed Gore, as have over 40 members of the state House members; Gore's cam-paign steering committee in New Hampshire is nearly 1,000 party organizers strong, and Bill Sha-heen, husband of New Hampshire Governor Jeanne Sha-heen, is directing the Gore effort in that state, and the governor herself is widely expected to en-dorse Gore before the all-important February primary. The high-est ranking supporter for Bradley is a state senator long considered a political maverick by his own

political maverick by his own party.

Taking nothing for granted and being well aware that New Hampshire sometimes votes for political underdogs, Bill Shaheen has put together a Gore organization in New Hampshire rarely equaled by another presidential campaign. In 1992, when Bill Clinton first brought his presidential campaign to New Hampdential campaign to New Hamp-shire, the state was devastated by economic recession, leading the nation in the rate of lost jobs, per-sonal bankruptcies, new welfare enrollments, and bank failures. Today, at 3 percent, New Hamp-shire has one of the lowest unemployment rates in the country and most of the credit is being given

to the Clinton-Gore administration. Gore might be distancing himself from the scandal-ridden Clinton in other parts of the country, but New Hampshire votcountry, but New Hampshire vot-ers have long been in love with the president, and his people, pushing the Gore effort in the Granite State, are asking, "Why would you ever want to change drivers in the middle of an economy like this? Al Gore is very much a part of the team that helped bring this state and this country back."

team that neiped oring this state and this country back."

The same thing exists in Iowa where Clinton is still popular and where the state Democratic ma-chinery has been practically turned over to the Gore cam-

paign. Most political obargn. Most political observers – inside the Washington D.C. beltway and out – will tell you that this is Gore's nomination to lose, and despite showing respectability in fundraising, the Bradley effort is not likely to

Bradley effort is not likely to pull it off against a far superior campaign organization. In order for Bradley to even have a chance to derail the Gore nomination he would have to pull off an upset in New Hampshire in February and that isn't in the cards. After New Hampshire, Gore can concentrate on who he wants as his vice presidential run-Gore can concentrate on who he wants as his vice presidential running mate. This one is all over but the cheering.

Politics and people

Last week was probably one of the worst that San Francisco Dis-trict Attorney **Terence Hallinan** will ever see. First, the San Fran-



District Attorney Terence Hallinan

cisco Chronicle publishes a banner headline, "Hallinan's Record cisco Chronicle publishes a banner headline, "Hallinan's Record Worst in State," on page one last Thursday, September 2, with a special report by respected reporter Bill Wallace that would upset any politician. Wallace's article, that followed an eightmonth investigation, compared, among other things, Hallinan's 27.7 percent conviction rate with other Bay Area district attorneys, who average a 61.4 percent conwho average a 61.4 percent conviction rate. The next day, the embattled Hallinan called a press conference to do some badly needed damage control. (Who

needed damage control. (Who advised Hallinan on that ploy?) Hallinan claimed that the press "is out to get him," and it went downhill from there.

In San Francisco, Hallinan surely has political enemies, but he also has supporters and many think Hallinan's news conference was overkill, while others say he came off "whining" and predictably "pointed fingers at others rather than himself." If you thought the race for mayor was thought the race for mayor was going to be fun, watch the battle

for district attorney - this one is

for district attorney – this one is sure to get interesting.
Hallinan's opponents in the November 2 election are Deputy Public Defender **Matt Gonzalez**, former Assistant District Attor-neys Steve Castleman and Bill Fazio, and attorney Mike Schae-fer, with two of the five candi-dates surely headed for a December runoff.

ber runoff.

When I mentioned last week that Hallinan had won the endorsement of the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club, I quickly received a call from one of Fazio's supporters asking why I didn't mention that Fazio had been endorsed by the Chinese-American Democratic Club. I just did.

In Washington D.C., those

In Washington D.C., those who supposedly know such things are saying that **Patrick Buchanan** is about to bolt the GOP and grab the Reform Party's GOP and grab the Retorm Party's nomination for president (if he can hold off Jesse "the Headline Hunter" Ventura) and that spells big problems for Republicans in the 2000 presidential campaign.

Incidentally, the national Reform Party will hold its nominating convention in Long Reach

ing convention in Long Beach next August 10-13, ending the day before Democrats open their convention in Los Angeles (August 14-17); Republicans will likely crown **George W. Bush** as their candidate in Philadelphia during the party's July 31-August 4 con-

fab.
Yes, that was apparently
Chelsea Clinton's new
boyfriend, Andrew Nichols, a
1998 Cornell grad, now a Los Angeles filmmaker, who quietly
slipped into one of the posh
downtown restaurants last week
with the first daughter who is a with the first daughter, who is a junior at Stanford this term (ac-companied, of course, by an army

companied, of course, by an army of Secret Service agents). In Sacramento, Governor Gray Davis, ignoring complaints by critics that it would set the stage for gay marriages, signaled a willingness last week to sign controversial legislation, AB 26, recognizing unmarried couples, including same-sex domestic partners, that would allow domestic partners to register with the Calipartners to register with the Cali-fornia secretary of state and ex-tend them limited benefits, including health coverage for do-mestic partners of public employ-

San Francisco friends of Eliza-beth Taylor, one of the best friends our community has, tell me that the committed AIDS activist is healing well at her Brent-wood home after having been hospitalized because of smashed vertebrae in her back suffered during a fall.

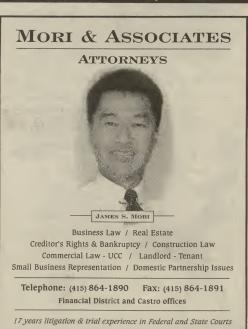
Also in Hollywood, those who know actor Warren Beatty are saying the film star is "damned serious" about exploring rious" about exploring a run against Gore and Bradley for the against offe and brauery for inc 2000 Democratic presidential nomination and will decide be-fore the end of September. And how was your week? ▼













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La Amistad exploits homophobia

compiled by GLAAD

n the August 17 Los Angeles
Times, staff writers Antonio
Olivo and Joseph Trevino took
a look at La Amistad, a group of a nook at La Amistad, a group of mostly Latino Protestant Pente-costals operating from the head-quarters of the Traditional Values Coalition and its founder, the Rev-erend Lou Sheldon. La Amistad is erend Lou Sheldon. La Amistad is working to mobilize Latino voters against lesbian and gay rights legislation, using opposition to gay rights to bring Latinos together with those who opposed them during the contentious California Proposition 187 campaign.

The article is problematic on several levels. By repeating Sheldon's claim that this alliance will heal the rift caused by conserv-

rift caused by conservative religious political group support of Proposition 187, the authors seem to endorse the notion that unified bigotry and hate can serve a greater good by

bringing together former adver-saries and giving a voice to Latino Protestants. Voices critical of the Traditional Values Coalition/La Amistad alliance are represented poorly as well, amounting only to

brief sound bites.

Overall, this issue is far more Overall, this issue is far more complex than the Times' coverage relates. By mentioning Los Angeles lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) Latino organization La Casa only in passing, and in neglecting the numerous other LGBT organizations and voices in the Latino community, the Times implies that Latino culture is inherently at odds with the LGBT herently at odds with the LGBT organizations and the control of the community herently at odds with the LGBT community, ignoring the many cultural connections between

them.
Please write to the Los Angeles

Times. A religious political union that seeks to foster an environ-ment of prejudice and hate has no place in our communities, and certainly ought not be legitimized by an important newspaper like the *Times*.

Contact Ms. Kathryn Downing, Publisher, Los Angeles Times, Times Mirror Square, Los Angeles, CA 90053, fax: (213) 237-7679, e-mail: letters@latimes.com.

San Diego Union-Tribune: Better than Chocolate

Trimark Pictures, distributor of the new comedy Better than Chocolate, recently ran into problems placing a paid ad for the film in the San

Diego Union-Tribune. The Union-Tribune's national advertising director, Dexter LaPierre, refused to run the ad, citing the use of the word "lesbian" in a re-view quoted in the ad ("One of the best lesbian films ever! Sexy! Funny! A total refreshing delight!"

by David Noh of Film Journal). "I didn't like the word lesbian," LaPierre said. "We have guidelines and do not want words of a sexu-

GLAAD subsequently contacted *Union-Tribune* management, asking them to change their disasking them to change their dis-criminatory policy immediately. Four days later, *Union-Tribune* editor Karin Winner called GLAAD to say that a new, formal policy was in effect immediately, and that the *Better Than Choco*late ad would be run with the word "lesbian" included in it.

Please write the San Diego Union-Tribune and thank them for their quick response in overturning this obviously indefensible policy.

Contact Ms. Karin Winner, Editor, San Diego Union-Tribune, 350 Camino de la Reina, San Diego, CA 92108-3003, e-mail: letters@uniontrib.com

'Straight' talk from Abby

In her August 29 syndicated advice column, Abigail Van Buren (Dear Abby) gives some no-nonsense advice to "Worried in Woodland Hills," a California mother concerned about her 10-verseld, son's development. year-old son's development. "While most boys pore over base-ball cards and speak of little girls, Trevor has taken an interest in cooking and dance," she writes. "He doesn't mix well with other boys, is teased constantly and hates the walk to school. He is effeminate and introspective. I have come to the conclusion that Trevor is a homosexual – or rather, will be when he's more developed. My question to you, Abby, is what can I do to make Abby, is what can I do to make this coming out process easier on my son?" In a compassionate response, Abby praises "Worried" for her supportive intentions, but tells her that Trevor's apparent lack of interest in girls "does not automatically guarantee that he's a budding homosexual." She suggests "the most important thing gests, "the most important thing you can do for Trevor is to let him know you love him unconditionally, regardless of his eventual orientation. By all means, talk to him entation. By all means, talk to him about sexuality, in an age-appropriate way." As for the teasing, Abby notes: "If your son is being harassed at school discuss it with the principal. Your son is legally entitled to an education free of harassment."

Please thank her for giving such sensible advice and for tending to the well-being of all her

ing to the well-being of all her

Contact Abigail Van Buren P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069, e-mail: http://www.uexpress.com/ups/abby/html/askab-

Late Late Show crosses the line

CBS' Late Late Show host Craig Kilborn historically has been sen-sitive to the LGBT community. Two months ago, however, Kilborn made a derogatory remark about our community. GLAAD met with our community. GLAAD filet will Late Late Show executive producer Billy Kimble in August to express concerns about Kilborn's on-screen comments. Kimble promised to work with Kilborn to ensure that such comments would not be aired in the future.

But on his August 25 program, Kilborn again made derogatory comments. "(GLAAD) says that comments. "(GLAAD) says that 28 gay, bisexual, or transgendered characters on TV is not enough," Kilborn said. "There's not enough, gay or lesbians on TV next year. In response, some of the networks have decided some new programs for the fall, including '2 Guys and 2 More Guys,' Touched by a Florist,' and 'Suddenly Sodomy." Such comments trivialize the need for inclusive LGBT representations on television. Please let the Late Late Show and CBS know that Kilborn's recent comments about

Kilborn's recent comments about our community are offensive. Contact Mr. Billy Kimble, Ex-ecutive Producer, The Late Late Show, c/o Worldwide Pants Inc., 7800 Beverly Boulevard, Suite 244, Los Angeles, CA 90036, fax: (323) 575-5662. ▼

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Bush: Soft on sodomy

by Dale Carpenter

he murky muck of compasne murky muck of compassionate conservatism is clearing up, and the emerging picture isn't always pretty. Texas Governor George W. Bush's public statements so far in support of criminalizing gay sex, for example, reveal that his views aren't very compassionate. They're not really conservative, either.

The statements are all the

The statements are all the more important as a signal about Bush's attitude toward gays because, although numerous states still have laws that forbid sodomy, only a handful aim solely at gay sex the way the Texas law does. To be fair to Bush, he inherited his

state's anti-gay sodomy law. Al-though it's been around for decades in one form

or another, the current version was adopted by a Democratic Legislature in 1993 as part of a comprehensive overhaul of the state penal code. Then it was signed by a Democratic governor, the sainted Ann Richards, who opposed the measure but did almost nothing to stop it. Still, Bush cannot escape the consequences of what he is saying about it now

and neither can we.
Those who support anti-gay

Passport '99 next week

by Cynthia Laird

ushing the limits of fashion and compassion to raise millions of dollars for the millions of dollars for the continuing fight against HIV/ AIDS, Macy's Passport '99 "Extreme" will excite and dazzle Bay Area audiences when it takes place at San Francisco's Fort Mason at San Francisco's Fort Mason Center starting Wednesday, Sep-tember 15 and continuing through Friday, September 17. The opening night reception and fashion show on Wednesday, as

well as the Thursday, September 16 gala featuring Earvin "Magic" Johnson; Elizabeth Taylor, Pass-port's founding chair; and actress Cindy Crawford, are sold out, however, tickets are still available for the Friday show that will feature Johnson hosting a live on-stage auction with celebrity guest Sharon Stone. Tickets for the Friday event, sponsored by American Express, are \$60 and include the cocktail reception, auction, and fashion show. A limited number of VIP runway tickets are available for \$150.

are available for \$150.

"We have invited a cadre of designers who are young visionaries with a pulse on what will be happening in the next millennium. Their collective vision is clean, modern, and future-forward," said Macy's fashion director Bill Bioler.

Since 1988, Macy's and American Express have raised more than \$8 million for HIV/AIDS research, prevention, treatment, and care to meet emerging needs.

For tickets to Friday's production, which starts at 7 p.m., call 1-877-ETM-4Macys or visit www.etm.com. For VIP tickets to Friday's event, call (510) 530-5599.

sodomy laws come two ways: hard and soft. The hard-on-sodomy position holds that gay sex should be illegal and those who practice it should be thrown in jail. The hard-liners are fully prepared to have the cops barge into your bedroom, arrest you, and haul you away to make license plates. It doesn't bother them that full imdoesn't bother them that full implementation of their vision of a moral society would assault the traditional conservative principle of limited government. Rigorous enforcement of anti-gay sodomy laws would require the erection of a police state.

Bush is more flaccid when it comes to

OutRight

Bush is more flaccid when it comes to sodomy. He has promised to veto any attempt to repeal the Texas sodomy law, which he defends as "a symbolic gesture of traditional values."

Yet Bush has never called for actual enforcement of the law. Thousands of gay Texans violate it every night with little fear that a Bush-inspired Gestapo will kick down their doors. Although last year Houston police did arrest two men having sex in a private home, the incident was so bizarre that it was the exception that proves the rule

incident was so bizarre that it was the exception that proves the rule of non-enforcement.

Implicit in Bush's endorsement of the sodomy law as a mere "symbol" and "gesture" is the idea that it should not be enforced. This soft defense is disingenuous. It says to the religious right. "It says to the religious right."

This soft defense is disingenuous. It says to the religious right, "I share your values." then winks at everyone else and whispers, "But I don't really mean it." It's the kind of politics that promises something with its fingers crossed behind its back. Is this compassionate conservatism in action?

It is certainly not compassionate. Just what "symbolic gesture" does an anti-gay sodomy law make? It is a signal sent from one segment of the population to another and is clear as can be; you are so dirty and disgusting that even your most intimate, loving moments are a stench in our nos-

even your most intimate, loving moments are a stench in our nostrils. It is a form of caste politics.

If you publicly denounce someone as a criminal, the compassionate act is then to jail him to protect him from the mob you've aroused.

But Bush's position is not conservative, either. The father of modern political conservatism, the 18th-century British states-

the 18th-century British states-man and political philosopher Edmund Burke, would be aghast at Bush's support for a criminal

law he is not prepared to enforce.
"A penal law not ordinarily put in execution seems to me to be a very absurd and a very dangerous very absurd and a very dangerous thing," Burke argued during a passionate speech urging tolerance for religious minorities. He reasoned that if the law at issue punishes a genuine evil it would be irresponsible not to administer it. However, if its object is not the suppression of some real wrong, "then you only not to hold even "then you only not to hold even."

"then you ought not to hold even a terror to those whom you ought certainly not to punish." If it is not right to enforce the law against an offender, Burke argued, then "it is him with it. "Take them which way you will," he said of unen-forced criminal laws, "they are pressed with ugly alternatives."

A real conservative in the Burke mold would either have the courage of his convictions and enforce the law or drop the matter. The existence of sodomy laws as a middle. middle-finger gesture from the traditional values majority to gay citizens proves Burke's insight that unenforced criminal laws are a menace and a terror to those

a menace and a terror to those they target.

What issues politely from the mouth of a politician may finish crudely on a Wyoming plain. If Bush wants symbols, let him ponder Matthew Shepard on his fence. There's the anti-gay symbol of this era.

Shepard didn't get to that spot by accident. He got there because two boys grew up in a culture that judged gays symbolic criminals; because, as young men, they learned it was their place to execute that judgment, even if the law was unwilling to do so; and they learned that in part because—rather than standing up for real decency, the kind that encourages citizens in a diverse and free societts to live idea by eight present. citizens in a diverse and free soci-ety to live side-by-side in peace – influential people like George W. Bush indulge a fake and preten-tious decency, the kind that plays at moral judgments it no longer believes in

believes in.
I may side with Bush on every-Thay side with bush on every-thing from taxes to China, but as long as he thinks I'm an outlaw in my own land, he won't get this Republican's vote. ▼

Dale Carpenter, an attorney, is the winner of two Vice Versa awards for excellence in gay writing. He can be reached care of this publication or at OutRight@aol.com. For more OutRight, visit www.planetout.com



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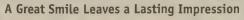
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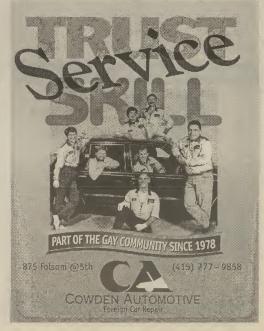


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Mora jury heavy on males, minorities, and moderates

by Katie Szymanski

omosexuality, alcoholism, and Hispanics. Those were the issues at hand during jury selection for the Edgard Mora trial, and most jurors were either retained or dismissed depending on their feelings about those topics.

In a packed courtroom last Thursday, September 2, attorneys took turns reading jurors' questionnaires and pinpointing specific concerns. Mora is charged with murdering gay city resident Brian Wilmes in March 1998 as Wilmes stood outside the Loading Dock, a gay bar on Mission Street.

a gay bar on Mission Street.

Defense attorney Robert Dunlap quickly dismissed potential jurors who were gay or lesbian, as well as anyone who had professional or strong personal ties to gay people: a woman whose friend was gay-bashed in the 1980s, a woman who walks dogs for the AIDS organization Pets Are Wonderful Support (PAWS), a woman who insisted that the word "fagreet" who insisted that the word "fag-got" was a derogatory term. Prosecutor Murlene Randle

rounded out the defense dis-

missals with dismissals of her own: a woman who said "faggot" was "nothing ... just a word peo-ple use," a man who drinks daily and said alcohol could "excuse" and said alcohol could excuse certain behavior, a man who found certain gay expressions like leather attire and cross-dressing to be offensive.

The slow process was intended to weed out people who would have any type of bias against or in favor of the defendant Mora or favor of the detendant Mora or the deceased victim, Wilmes, but in the end, a person had to be bla-tantly offended by gay people in order to be dismissed by the prosecution, and only somewhat sympathetic to gay causes to be dis-missed by the defense. Addition-ally, all of the dismissed jurors who admitted they would have a bias in the case said they would favor the victim. In other words, those who may in fact favor Mora

those who may in fact favor Mora never spoke up.

As a result, the jury now con-sists of 12 people who think everything "depends" on specific circumstances; most do not think the word "faggot" is always a derogatory term, but most do have gay friends or acquaintances and said they take no offense to

gay affection or expression.

The jury does represent ethnic minorities across the board (there are seven people of color on the 12-person jury), most of whom said they believe in hate crimes leg-islation as long as hatred was clearthe motivation behind the

The prosecution has the difficult task of proving that although Mora may not have gone out on March 12, 1998 with the intent to March 12, 1998 with the intent to kill a gay person, there is in fact a reason he targeted a gay person during his drunken rampage, even if that reason was a subconscious feeling of superiority (all of Mora's alleged victims on his as-sault trail that evening were clearly not people he considered his equals: a woman, a homeless man, and Wilmes, a gay man).

The nine men and three women on the jury have the task of remaining open to evidence that challenges potential biases that they may not even be aware they have. As one woman who was chosen for the jury told the court, "I need to hear the whole story. There are probably things that touch on issues that have never crossed my mind."

Mora trial

◄ page 1

most as if she believed that the jurors would think leather gear was a permissible target for violence.

Randle was careful to say that Wilmes and Carroll had dug the leather out of storage that morning, played dress-up, and then decided it would be "fun" to try out their attire at the Loading Dock.

Randle almost seemed to be apol-Randle almost seemed to be apologizing to the jury for the men's appearance that night, explaining appearance that night, explaining Carroll's exposed buttocks with a laughing dismissal that the men were simply "celebrating."

Dunlap had some surprises of his own. In an interesting appearance the shows that

proach meant to show that Wilmes contributed to his own death, Dunlap decided to portray his client Mora as even more abu-sive than Randle did.

Randle had remarked in her



Court sketch of Edgard Mora

opening that Mora's attempted attack on a homeless man failed, that Mora had swung and missed. But Dunlap told the jury that Mora in fact did hit the man, and that because the victim was sober,

that because the victim was sober, he was able to regain his balance and not fall to the ground. Wilmes was high on drugs and intoxicated with alcohol, Dunlap told the jury, which was the main factor in his falling to his death. "Wilmes had a reaction that common the intoxication that common the intoxication that had been also with the common the intoxication that had been also with the common the intoxication that had been also with the common that had been also wit

common to intoxicated people," Dunlap said, "And in his failed at-tempt to catch his balance he injured himself."

jured himself."

Dunlap said that Wilmes and Carroll "shared a bottle of wine" that night and that blood and urine tests revealing methamphetamine in Wilmes's body show that Wilmes was high, disoriented, and unable to recover from a girpule purch.

ed, and unable to recover from a simple punch.

But Carroll said he and Wilmes each had one glass of wine and did not touch drugs the entire day they were together. Nobody mentioned that the presence of methamphetamine in the blood does not necessarily mean Wilmes ingested the drug that evening.

As the remaining evidence unfolds, jurors will have to decide whose accounts of the story they believe, whether Mora is criminally liable for Wilmes's death, and if that crime is manslaughter

or murder.
While Randle told the jury that sexual orientation did not have to be the only factor in Wilmes's as-sault for his death to be a hate crime, Dunlap said he will prove that Wilmes's sexual orientation was not a factor at all. This point alone could be the main influence on the jury's verdict. ▼

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Campaign to rebuild Laguna Honda kicks off tonight

After federal report, voters asked to OK bond for city's nursing home

by Cynthia Laird

n one of the hallways at Laguna Honda Hospital last Thursday, September 2, some of the pa-tients held rabbits, cats, and entients field rabbits, cats, and enjoyed other animals, while a staffer had to retrieve one of the ducks that wandered away from "Farm Day" at the old skilled nursing, hospice, rehabilitation, and acute medical center that sits on 64 acres in San Francisco and is home to

1,078 patients, plus others who come for outpatient services. On November 2, city voters will be asked to approve the largest gener-al obligation bond in history – \$299 million – so that the facility can be rebuilt in compliance with a variety of federal laws. Chief variety of federal laws. Chief among those regulations is a re-quirement that patients be housed no more than four to a room un-like Laguna Honda's large open wards that house up to 30 patients. The federal government last

year issued a scathing report of the 133-year-old skilled nursing facility, citing, among other things, the large open wards and long wings and stating that pa-tient privacy issues now require patients share rooms with no more than three other patients. The government put the city on notice that it risked losing millions of dollars in federal funds if conditions weren't improved. Since then, concerned citizens and city officials have been meeting in an effort to come up with a bond

city officials have been meeting in an effort to come up with a bond measure that voters could pass to reconstruct the facility.

The result is Proposition A, as the bond measure is called, and it must be approved by two-thirds of the voters. The rest of the money for the \$401 million reconstruction project would come from the city's share of tobacco litigation settlements, which is expected to be \$347 million over 25 years. Tonight (Thursday, September 9), the Committee to Save Laguna Honda Hospital kicks off the official start of the campaign at its headquarters, 2362-B Market Street, at Castro Street, starting at 6:30 p.m. The public is invited, said Tom Hsieh Jr., spokesman for the campaign and son of former Supervisor Tom Hsieh.

Hsieh told the Bay Area Researce that if the hond measure is the bond reseasure in the son of the supervisor Tom Hsieh.

Supervisor Tom Hsieh.

Hsieh told the Bay Area Reporter that if the bond measure is not approved by voters, the city will face potentially critical decisions regarding Laguna Honda, which provides one-third of the skilled nursing beds available in the city. The federal government has indicated it will not be as lenient in granting waivers for the city to operate the hospital, and if that happens, there could be a moratorium on the number of patients admitted to the facility.

"This is one of the best plans and

is is one of the best plans and one of the more reasonable plans in terms of taxpayers," Hsieh said. Laguna Honda Hospital has a

long tradition of service to the people of San Francisco. It began in 1866 as "The Almshouse," a shelter for the city's unemployed and homeless men. The current Span-ish Revival structure was built in ish Revival structure was built in 1926. Hsieh pointed out that many city residents are aware of the need to replace Laguna Honda. And he said the city must plan for the aging population. "There are many choices for long term care, not just Laguna Honda," Hsieh said, "but selvilling Laguna Honda," Starbe Honda Hossitid. rebuilding Laguna Honda Hospital is one of the steps."

Under the proposed reconstruction plan, the first phase of the project involves a new series of

Long hallways like this one will be a thing of the past if voters approve Proposition A on the Nov. ballot to rebuild the Laguna Honda Hospital

low-rising buildings to be constructed adjacent to the current hospital, Lawrence Funk, executive administrator at Laguna Honda, administrator at Laguna Honda, said the buildings would be four to five stories and look like senior apartment buildings. The clustered design would maximize access to the outdoors, while large areas for residents would include places for socialization, dining, and other activities. Residents would live in one-, two-, and 4-person rooms, in compliance with federal law.

compliance with federal law.

After that's finished, patients at the current Clarendon Hall, which was remodeled in the 1970s but is seismically unsafe, would be demolished and 140 units of assisted living housing would be built in which residents would live semindependently and would have access to nursing and other services. cess to nursing and other services. The new facility would include state-of-the-art medical, dental, and acute care clinics, as well as ex-panded adult day health care and

senior nutrition programs.

It is anticipated that it will take seven years to build the new skilled nursing facility. Residents would be moved into the new hospital in the summer of 2006;

in the summer of 2006; assisted living would be available in the spring of 2009.

"The trend in the U.S. is to move away from a medical design," Funk said. He emphasized that all funds generated from the bond measure would be invested

bond measure would be invested "for the patients," and that administrative offices would be housed in a portion of the existing main building.

Since last year's critical federal report, steps have been taken to improve Laguna Honda, but the physical layout of the large old buildings prohibits much in the way of substantial upgrades. As

Dr. Charles Stinson, chief of psychiatry, told the *B.A.R.* during a tour last week, there's only so much that can be done.

The rainbow group

Stinson and Victoria Cameron, an activity therapist at Laguna Honda, are both openly gay and were involved in getting gay pa-tients at the hospital to form a "Rainbow Group" for social activ-

itents at the hospital to form a "Rainbow Group" for social activities. Stinson said some patients thought they were the only gay people at the facility, and were surprised when about 15 turned out for the group's first event, a Halloween party last year.

Laguna Honda has several wards, including those for AIDS patients, hospice, occupational therapy, physical therapy, and other services. Cameron pointed to the activity schedule in the AIDS ward, noting they have varied activities for people there as well as those in other wards. Currently, there are about 28 patients living with HIV/AIDS on the ward.

"It's a very varied group of people, with respect to age, sexual orientation, and race," said Cameron. There is a small solarium on the AIDS ward, and a barbecue on an outside patio, in an effoct to make

AIDS ward, and a barbecue on an outside patio, in an effort to make the area more comfortable. Cameron said the focus of the AIDS ward has shifted from primarily

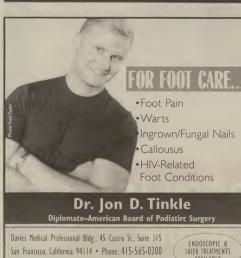
ward has similarly hospice to longer survival in the face of changes in the epidemic.

The hospice ward, headed by Dr. Derek Kerr, is an area of the hospital that has been transformed the most. Last week, patients were talking with friends or sitting a very home-like living room with sunshine streaming in through the windows. Outside, children who visit the patients have started a gar-

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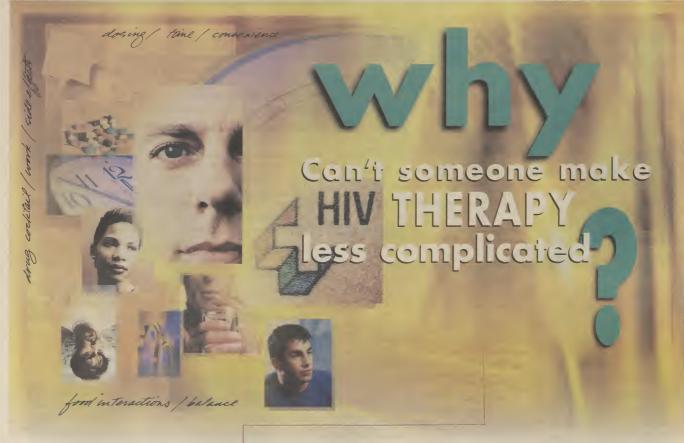




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SUSTIVA, an NNRTI*, must be used in combination with other HIV drugs.

SUSTIVA is tough on HIV. It reduces the amount of virus in your blood and increases the number of CD4 cells. SUSTIVA can even be used in young children, 3 years of age or older. This is based on results from controlled clinical trials at 24 weeks. Presently, there are no results from controlled clinical trials showing the long-term effects of SUSTIVA.

SUSTIVA has manageable side effects. Most side effects are mild to moderate and can be managed. The most significant side effects associated with SUSTIVA therapy have been nervous system symptoms (dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating and/or abnormal dreams) and rash. These usually subside within the first two to four weeks of treatment. In a small number of patients, rash may be serious. Taking SUSTIVA at bedtime may help make nervous system symptoms less noticeable.

Pregnancy should be avoided in women receiving SUSTIVA because birth defects have been seen in primates dosed with SUSTIVA. Barrier contraception should always be used in combination with other methods of contraception.

Talk to your doctor when you start taking SUSTIVA. SUSTIVA may

change the effect of other medicines (including ones for HIV). Always tell your doctor if you are taking, starting or changing any prescription or non-prescription medicine when taking SUSTIVA. Your doctor may change your medicines or change their dose. You should discuss your prior medical conditions (such as mental illness, substance abuse, hepatitis, etc.) with your doctor before taking SUSTIVA.

We know that coping with HIV is difficult enough. Your treatment doesn't have to be. Ask your doctor about SUSTIVA. For more important information see the next page for Patient Information about SUSTIVA.

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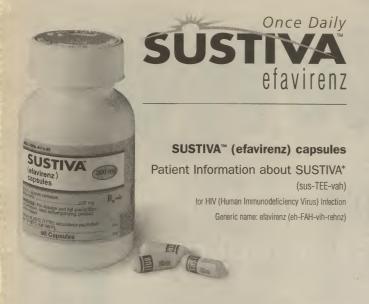
*NNRTI - non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor.

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For more information on the updated DHHS Guidelines, a PDF file of the guidelines is available
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1. Guidelines for the Unit of Antiretrownal Agents in HIV Infection Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). December 1998.

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Please read this information before you start taking SUSTIVA. Read it again each time you refill your prescription, in case there is any new information. Don't treat this leaflet as your only source of information about SUSTIVA. Always discuss SUSTIVA with your doctor when you start taking your medicine and at every visit. You should remain under a doctor's care when using SUSTIVA. You should not change or stop treatment without first talking to your doctor.

What is SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA is a medicine used to help treat HIV, the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome). SUSTIVA is a type of HIV drug called a "non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor" (NNRTI).

How does SUSTIVA work?

SUSTIVA works by lowering the amount of HIV in the blood (called "viral load"). SUSTIVA must be taken with other anti-HIV medicines. When taken with other anti-HIV medicines, SUSTIVA has been shown to reduce viral load and increase the number of CD4 cells (a type of immune cell in blood). SUSTIVA may not have these effects in every patient.

Does SUSTIVA cure HIV or AIDS?

SUSTIVA is not a cure for HIV or AIDS. People taking SUSTIVA may still develop other infections associated with HIV. Because of this, it is very important that you remain under the care of your doctor.

Does SUSTIVA reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

SUSTIVA has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others. Continue to practice safe sex, and do not use or share dirty needles.

How should I take SUSTIVA?

- The dose of SUSTIVA for adults is 600 mg (three 200 mg capsules, taken together) once a day by mouth. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower (see Can children take SUSTIVA?).
- Take SUSTIVA at the same time each day. You should take SUSTIVA at bedtime during the first few weeks or if you have side effects, such as dizziness or trouble concentrating (see What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?).
- Swallow SUSTIVA with water, juice, milk or soda. You may take SUSTIVA with or without meals; however, SUSTIVA should not be taken with a high fat meal
- Do not miss a dose of SUSTIVA. If you forget to take SUSTIVA, take the missed dose right away. If you do miss a dose, do not double the next dose. Carry on with your regular dosing schedule. If you need help in planning the best times to take your medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- Take the exact amount of SUSTIVA your doctor prescribes. Never change the dose on your own. Do not stop this medicine unless your doctor tells you to stop.
- When your SUSTIVA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to SUSTIVA and become harder to treat

Can children take SUSTIVA?

Yes, children who are able to swallow capsules can take SUSTIVA. Rash may be a serious problem in some children. Tell your child's doctor right away if you notice rash or any other side effects while your child is taking SUSTIVA. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower than the dose for adults. Capsules containing lower doses of SUSTIVA are available. Your child's doctor will determine the right dose based on your child's weight.

Who should not take SUSTIVA?

Do not take SUSTIVA if you are allergic to SUSTIVA or any of its ingredients.

What other medical problems or conditions should I discuss with my doctor?

Talk to your doctor right away if you

- · Are pregnant or want to become pregnant
- · Are breast-feeding
- · Have problems with your liver, or have had hepatitis
- · Start or change any medicine
- Have side effects while taking SUSTIVA (efavirenz)
- · Have a history of mental illness, substance or alcohol abuse

What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?

Many patients have dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams a few hours after starting treatment with SUSTIVA. These feelings may be less noticeable if you take SUSTIVA at bedtime. They also tend to go away after you've taken the medicine for a few weeks. Rarely, patients have more serious side effects that may affect mood or ability to think clearly. These side effects occur more often in patients with a history of mental illness or substance abuse. Tell your doctor promptly if any of these side effects continue or if they bother you. There is the possibility that these symptoms may be more severe if SUSTIVA is used with alcohol or mood altering (street) drugs. You should avoid driving or operating machinery if you are having these side effects.

One of the most common side effects is rash. These rashes usually go away without any change in treatment. In a small number of patients, rash may be serious. If you develop a rash, call your doctor promptly.

Other common side effects include tiredness, upset stomach, vomiting, and diarrhea. However, this is not a complete list of side effects reported with SUSTIVA when taken with other anti-HIV drugs. Do not rely on this leaflet alone for information about side effects. Your doctor can discuss a more complete list of side effects with you

Please contact your doctor immediately before stopping SUSTIVA because of side effects. Tell your doctor or other healthcare provider if you notice any side effects while taking SUSTIVA.

What about birth control, pregnancy, or breast-feeding?

Women should not become pregnant while taking SUSTIVA. Birth defects have been seen in animals treated with SUSTIVA. It is not known whether this could happen in humans. You should use a condom or diaphragm in addition to other methods of birth control while taking SUSTIVA. Inform your doctor immediately if you are pregnant. If you want to become pregnant, talk to your doctor. Do not take SUSTIVA if you are breast-feeding. Talk to your doctor if you are breast-feeding your baby.

Can I take other medicines with SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA may change the effect of other medicines (including ones for HIV). Your doctor may change your medicines or change their doses. For this reason, it is very important to:

- · Let all your doctors and pharmacists know that you take SUSTIVA
- Tell your doctors and pharmacists about all medicines you take. This includes those you buy over-the-counter and herbal or natural remedies

Bring all your medicines when you see a doctor, or make a list of their names, how much you take, and how often you take them. This will give your doctor a complete picture of the medicines you use. Then he or she can decide the best approach for your situation.

The following medicines may cause serious and life-threatening side effects when taken with SUSTIVA. You should not take any of these medicines while taking SUSTIVA:**

- Hismanal® (astemizole)
- Propulsid® (cisapride)
- Versed® (midazolam)
- Halcion® (triazolam)
- Ergot medications (for example, Wigraine® and Cafergot®)

The following medicines may need to be changed or have their dose changed when taken with SUSTIVA: *

- · Crixivan® (indinavir)
- Fortovase® (saquinavir)
- Biaxin® (clarithromycin)

How should I keep SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA is available as 50 mg, 100 mg, and 200 mg capsules.

Keep SUSTIVA at room temperature (77°F) in the bottle given to you by your pharmacist. The temperature can range from 59°-86°F.

Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children.

How can I learn more about SUSTIVA?

Talk to your doctor or other healthcare provider if you have questions about either SUSTIVA or HIV. For additional information you can visit the SUSTIVA website at http://www.sustiva.com.

This medicine was prescribed for your particular condition. Do not use it for any other condition or give it to anybody else. Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children. If you suspect that more than the prescribed dose of this medicine has been taken, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.

More hearings on Winchell murder

by Bob Roehr

he Army conducted its second round of hearings into the July 5 bludgeoning of Private First Class Barry Winchell at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. In the months prior to his death Winchell faced escalating harassment because he was precisived or ment because he was perceived as being gay. He was dating a trans-gendered dancer at a gay club in Nashville.

The four days of article 32 hearings, which began on August 30, were to determine whether Specialist Justin R. Fisher will face court-martial on four counts as an accessory to the murder and in obstructing the investigation. That recommendation is expected later this month.

Attorneys for Calvin N. Glover, the soldier charged as the princi-pal in the attack, used the hearing to undermine the credibility of Fisher, who is Glover's main accuser. A guard and a fellow prisoner testified that Glover had told them that the idea for the attack

came from Fisher.

While in jail, Glover told another prisoner that Winchell had made a pass at him during the barracks beer party the night of the murder. Stacey Sobel, an attorney with the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network which is monitoring the situation at Fort Campbell, was troubled by the accusation, but she did not give it cusation, but she did not give it much credence.

Sobel noted that it was a com-

sobel noted that it was a comment made after the fact and to a third party, while others who attended the party had testified that Winchell and Glover had avoided Winchell and Glover had avoided each other during the event. Furthermore, the pair had fought earlier in the week, with Glover the provoker and Winchell the victor. It seemed highly unlikely that Winchell, who was dating a civilian, would "hit on" someone who had attacked him.

The most graphic testimony came from Staff Sergeant Bradley Hardin, one of the first on the scene that fatal night. He knew something was wrong when he heard Fisher yelling, "Oh God,



Private First Class Barry Winchell

help me, I think he's dying." He help me, I think he's dying." He came upon Fisher who was trying to carry the bleeding Winchell down the stairs. Blood spattered the floor, walls, and cot on which Winchell had lain, it streamed from the dying man's ear. Winchell "had raccoon eyes and both eyes were black." Hardin said.

Specialist Edgar Rosa, a friend of Fisher's, testified that in the

several days between the beating and being charged with the crime, Fisher "gave me different stories" each time they discussed it. "I could tell that he was lying, you don't change your story that many times." He believes that Fisher swung the bat and hit Winchell "with every inch of fiis heart." Special Agent Howard Sander administered a polygraph to Fisher during the course of the investigation. The results indicated that Fisher was lying when he denied planning and participating in Winchell's murder. "It's increasingly clear from these hearings that the Army turned a blind eye to anti-gay harassment among its soldiers, which in turn sends the message that anti-gay discrimination is acceptable," said Rhonda White. She is co-chair of the Lesbian and Gay Coalition for Justice based in nearby Nashville. "We must insist on the right of

nearby Nashville.
"We must insist on the right of all lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered citizens, whether soldiers or civilians, to live free of hadiers or civilians, to live free of hadiers or civilians, to live free of hadiers or civilians and the same of the civilians and the civilian rassment and discrimination." V



Frank, Campbell ask Clinton to stop May investigation

by Bob Roehr

teve May, under investigation for violation of the Pentagon's policy of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" (DADT), is getting some assistance from Capitol Hill. Congressmen Barney Frank (D-Massachusetts) and Tom Campbell (R-Califor-nia) sent a letter to President Bill Clinton asking that the investigation be called off. The September 2 letter will be circulated for additional congressional sig-natures when members return after Labor Day.

May is a lieutenant in the Army Reserve and a Republican representing east Phoenix in the Arizona Legislature. He acknowledged he was gay during past elections and in February during chamber debate on antigay legislation. The debate was front-page news in Arizona.

The lieutenant was on inactive status with the Army at the time. He was called up to active status shortly after the debate, when the situation in Kosovo began heating up. He has been serving as a "weekend warrior" ever since. The investigation

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Additional Information:

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For more information, call Doug Raggett, RN (415) 476-9296 x312

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This 48 week study is being conducted to show that the antiviral activity of Enteric Coated ddi with d4T and Nelfinavir is similar to the antiviral activity produced by Combivir and

Study Requirements:

- Study Requirements:
 T cell count 200 or greater
 Viral load 2,000 or greater
 Patients should be available for at least 48 weeks
 Less than 1 month of anti-HIV medicines in the past

Additional Information:

- Free study medication and lab tests
 Enteric Coated ddl=only one pill, once a day
 Fewer side effects expected than with standard ddl
 Possible regimens: Enteric ddl+d4T and Nelfinavir or
 Combivir + Nelfinavir

For more information, call Dorie Heeren, RN (415) 476-9296 x305

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- eks of stable antiretroviral therapy
- No steroids or immune modulating medications (iL-2, iL-12)

Participants will receive \$40/infusion day (20 days) and for each follow up visit for a max.

For more information call Anna Smith, RN (415) 476-9296 x313

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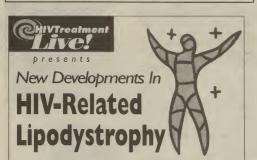
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A FREE Interactive Telephone Teleconference

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

5 PM Pacific • 6 PM Mountain • 7 PM Central • 8 PM Eastern Time

Donald Kotler, MD, Professor of Medicine, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons

Andrew Carr, MD, Stoff Specialist, HIV Medicine and Immunology, St.Vincent's Hospital, Sydney, Australia Roger Anderson, MD, President, Anderson Clinical Research

Ronald Baker, PhD, Editor-in-Chief, HIV and Hepatitis.com

To join the telephone teleconference, you must register in advance. To make your reservation, please call this toll-free number Monday–Friday, 9 AM–5 PM Eastern Time.

Prevention confab reports slowed decline in AIDS death rate

by Liz Highleyman

he decline in the number of deaths due to AIDS is no longer as steep as it has been in recent years, according to re-search presented at the National HIV Prevention Conference held

August 29-September 1 in Atlanta. Researchers from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevenfor Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported that the number of AIDS deaths decreased by 20 percent from 1997 to 1998, nearly half the 42 percent rate of decline from 1997 to 1996. There were 17,047 U.S. deaths due to AIDS in 1998 compared to 21,222 in 1997 and 36,792 in 1996. Health officials also estimated that the rate of new HIV infections is holding steady at amproximately holding steady at approximately 40,000 per year.

The earlier dramatic decline in

The earlier dramatic decline in AIDS deaths was attributed in part to the widespread use of combination anti-HIV therapy including protease inhibitor drugs. The new lower rate suggests that the drugs may not be as effective as previously hoped over the long term or for the majority of those with HIV disease. According to Dr. Helene Gayle of the National Center for HIV, STD, and TB Prevention at the CDC,

"In a period of only two years, new combination therapies cut the annual level of death in half ... But for the time being, it appears that much of the benefit of these new therapies has been real-ized." HIV often develops resistance to antiviral drugs, and many people experience adverse side ef-fects from the medications or find rects from the medications of find it difficult to adhere to the drugs' complex and strict schedules. Steven Fisher of AIDS Action em-phasized that "AIDS drugs don't

phasized that TAPS drugs don't work for everyone, and they aren't a cure for anyone." In his August 31 report to the city's Health Commission, San Francisco Department of Public Health (DPH) Director Dr. Mitch Vertugid he ballowed that media Health (DPH) Director Dr. Mitch Katz said he believed that media reports of the slowing decline in AIDS deaths "exaggerated the sig-nificance" of the change. In San Francisco there were 304 deaths due to AIDS in 1998 compared to 360 in 1997 and 1,118 in 1996. As 360 in 1997 and 1,118 in 1996. As was the case nationally, there was a much greater decline from 1996 to 1997 than from 1997 to 1998. Katz said it would be "highly improbable" to see continued decreases in AIDS deaths of 68 percent (the rate of decline from 1996 to 1997). According to Katz, the fact that deaths due to AIDS continued to decrease – albeit at a slower rate —"should give us increased motivation to make sure that everyone benefits from antiretroviral drug combinations by that everyone benefits from anti-retroviral drug combinations by increasing the number of people who know they are HIV-positive (through increased voluntary HIV testing) and increasing pro-grams that address access and ad-herence to treatments."

The Atlant conference the first

The Atlanta conference, the first of its kind, was sponsored by the CDC and brought together over 2,000 researchers, public health officials, members of AIDS service

organizations, and advocates for people with HIV and AIDS. Among the other prevention news from the conference, the CDC's Gayle reported that in 1998 the number of AIDS deaths 1998 the number of AIDS deaths as a proportion of population was 10 times higher among African Americans than among whites, as was the rate of new AIDS cases. Overall, the relative proportion of U.S. AIDS cases in populations other than white gav men has in-

creased. U.S. Surgeon General David Satcher reported that in 1997-98, 45 percent of new AIDS cases were among African Ameri-cans (who make up 13 percent of cans (who make up 13 percent of he U.S. population), compared to 25 percent a decade and a half ago. The relative proportion for Latinos in 1997-98 was 22 percent (up from 14 percent in the mid-1980s), and just over 23 percent of 1997-98 AIDS cases were in women (compared to 8 percent in the mid-1980s). Relative propor-tions of deaths due to AIDS were similar, with 49 percent among tions of deaths due to AIDS were similar, with 49 percent among African Americans, 32 percent among whites, and 18 percent among Latinos. According to Satcher, "One of the major concerns we have about the AIDS epidemic is that increasingly it is affecting communities that tend to be left out of the health care and fecting communities that tend to be left out of the health care and public health system ... We know that in order to be successful we have to find a new way to reach these communities."

Researchers also presented results from a study conducted by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care that indicated that AIDS rates are high in

dicated that AIDS rates are high in dicated that AIDs rates are nign in the nation's prison system. There were approximately 8,900 incar-cerated persons with AIDS in 1997, five times higher than in the rate in the unincarcerated popular lation. Rates of HIV infection are estimated to be up to 10 times estimated to be up to 10 times higher among prisoners. Recently released ex-prisoners may account for up to 17 percent of U.S. AIDS cases, and they also have high rates of hepatitis C infection, tuberculosis, and sexually transmitted diseases.

Health officials at the conference the secretary and ded the conference conference the secretary and ded the conference confere

ence frequently sounded the alarm about what they called in-creased complacency in regards to HIV disease and AIDS. Many ex-pressed concern that advances in pressed concern that advances in antiviral drug treatments have given some people a false sense of security that may make them less interested in prevention. According to Gayle, "Despite a growing complacency about the need for HIV prevention, HIV remains a serious disease that is still very much with us, and there is a greater need for HIV prevention today more than ever."

HIVCare Research Center At Saint Francis Memorial Hospital

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HIVCare Research Center is a non-profit program at Saint Francis Memorial Hospital 900 Hyde Street, San Francisco CA 94109

Interested? For more information, call Mark Bowers at 353-6215; Physicians may call Gifford Leoung, MD, Medical Director, at 474-7900.

Laguna Honda

den that teaches them about death den that teaches them about death and dying. There's a mailbox for the children to "leave messages" for loved ones, and small fountains. "Magic" stones have been brought by children in remembrance of loved ones and are placed through-out the area. Murals have been painted on the exterior walls. "Even ju a terribly old huilding.

"Even in a terribly old building, there are some wonderful things that can be done," Stinson said of the hospice ward and garden.

"It's more of a community that a medical ward," Kerr said, though just beyond the comfortable "living room" are the large open wards that are still part of every department at Laguna Honda.

In an effort to make the open

wards more private, divisions have been put up, but that has resulted in fewer patients being able to reside there. Very few, less than 5 percent, of Laguna Honda's patients are private pay; MediCal and Medicare provide funds for the majority of patients.

Groups like the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus have gone to Laguna Honda where they've been a hit with patients as they rehearse shows in the large auditorium. Additionally, Cameron said that in

shows in the large auditorium. Additionally, Cameron said that interested people are welcome to volunteer at the hospital; efforts are made to match volunteers with patients, said Sandra Johnson, volunteer coordinator.

For information on volunteer opportunities at Laguna Honda Hospital, call (415) 759-3333.

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Wider access to PMPA finally

by Matt Sharp, ACT UP/ Golden Gate Writers Pool

MPA, a new antiretroviral drug, which targets the reverse transcriptase enzyme in the HIV life-cycle in a new and different way than previous therapies, is reaching an important stage of development. Clinical trials are proving the drug to be worthy of entering into wider access for people who have few options. After a painstaking process, the company has agreed to make the drug more available in early access clinical trials and programs.

grams.
Community members have been in negotiations with PMPA's maker, Gilead Sciences in Foster City, for several months now, try-ing to broker a deal for broader access to PMPA. As with its sister drug, adefovir, also known as Pre-veon, the process of working with the company has not been easy. Gilead is in the midst of preparing for FDA approval hearings for adefovir and the results of clinical trails are not particularly favorable. So, the difficulty has been getting the company to pur-sue development of its newer

drug given the unexciting data on adefovir. Promises made by Gilead for access to PMPA have gone undone and have only frus-trated patients who need the drug now. Bringing out a newer more favorable drug, PMPA, in the shadow of the less favorable Pre-

shadow of the less favorable Preveon, has been unfortunate timing for the company.

Community members have been trying to persuade the company to back PMPA because it appears to be a more powerful antiviral than adefovir and so far less toxic. Adefovir causes serious kidney toxicity after 20 weeks of therapy that appears to be reversible upon discontinuation. Nevertheless, the side effects are a major concern to people in late stage disease who might be using this drug and will cast a shadow over the future of adefovir. The community mantra has been to explore the possibilities with the second line drug, PMPA because approval of adefovir appears to

less favorable.
Also, as with previous expanded access programs, including Gilead's adefovir program, the community has pressured for all-inclusive criteria so that anyone that cannot construct a viable

new promising therapies. No one who is failing current regimens should just add one new drug in order to control virus replication. The best effect would be to add two or more new drugs, preferably from a new class. Therefore, the nucleotide family of drugs, made by Gilead, are important components to the equation. And PMPA,

appearing to be more po-tent than adefovir and less toxic thus far, would be the preferred drug.
But the company has a dilemma in that it has poured precious

funding into research and development for adefovir. And now that PMPA is nearing wider access, they have to make an impor-tant decision that has serious life saving implications for people who have few options with the available drugs. Obviously people in this boat would prefer the more powerful, less toxic drug, PMPA, but can the company afford to throw the baby (adefovir) out with the bath water?

So far in meetings with the Coalition for Salvage Therapy, a group of patient advocates sup-porting third line options, Gilead has acquiesced in several de-

mands where details will have to be ironed out in implementation: They have agreed to look at PMPA in drug interaction trials with the new Abbott pro-tease inhibitor, ABT-

378 that will be the other important available drug to combine. (It is im-

portant that drug companies perform interaction studies so that combinations are safe and Gilead has also promised com-passionate use availability to PMPA for any individual who fits the requirements by September. Previously, desperate patients were not even afforded this pos-

sibility. An open label protocol will be another access mechanism for PMPA for patients who have broken through on their current regimen, at 30 sites in October. Gilead has also agreed October. Gilead has also agreed to make PMPA available for people who were not close to the designated sites. Finally, a larger expanded access program was promised for the third quarter of 2000, one quarter behind the original promise they made in April. Hopefully, with more supply of the drug becoming available, more community pressure, able, more community pressure, and with good results in the open label protocol, the expanded ac-cess program will open sooner. So, it is promising that PMPA

So, it is promising that PMPA will be made more available will be made more available sooner to people who need new options. But the process of wider access has been a long road mired in typical pharmaceutical games that are only detrimental to patients Gilead hopes to eventually market their drug to, but now more lives may be saved with these important programs.

Stall, Blackberri, and Decker to be honored at 'Twilight Cabaret'

ACT UP

by Terry Beswick

he Stop AIDS Project will recognize the contributions of "three local heroes" at their fourth annual San Francis co HIV Prevention Awards, to be presented at the "Twilight Co Hy Prevention Awards, to be presented at the "Twilight Cabaret," this Monday, September 13, at 6:30 p.m., in Harry Denton's Starlight Room atop the Sir Francis Drake Hotel, 450 Pow-

This year's event will honor Ron Stall, researcher at the University of California San Francisco's Center for AIDS Prevention Studies; Blackberri, an outreach worker for the Glide-Goodlett

HIV/AIDS Project; and Ed Decker, artistic and executive director of the New Conservatory Theatre Center. Dr. Jerry Zientara and John Carr will also receive special recognition for their work with S.F. Jacks.

S.F. Jacks.

"The dedication and passion they display inspire all of us who are working to end the spread of HIV," Stop AIDS Project board president Jason Lorber said of the honorees.

Jaime Gomez of TV's Nash Bridges will be master of cere-monies. Singers Samantha Samuels, Connie Champagne, Frank Cote, and the Lollipop Guild of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus will provide entertainment. The awards will be pre-sented by Werner Tillinger, 1999 Mr. San Francisco Leather, and Tom Basch, 1999 Mr. Gay San Francisco.

Francisco.

Founded in 1984, the mission of the Stop AIDS Project is "to prevent HIV transmission among all gay and bisexual men in San Francisco through multicultural,

reaction through multicuttral, community-based organizing."

Tickets to the Twilight Cabaret are \$50 or \$100, and are available at El Portal Luggage in the San Francisco Centre, or at the door. ▼

For more information, call (415) 575-0150, ext. 260.

Free lipodystrophy teleconference

by Terry Beswick

ew Treatments in HIV-related Lipodystrophy" will be the subject of an interactive teleconference this Wednesday, September, 15 at 5 p.m. Pacific time. The telephone conference will feature a panel of researchers and clinicians discussing lipodystrophy, which refers to an HIV-related syndrome characterized by an abnormal distribution of body fat. Hosted by HIV Treatment Livel, the teleconference is supported by an educational grant from Agouron Pharmaceuticals and Serono Laboratories. Participants must register with their first name in advance, and may submit questions in advance, ask questions during the teleconference, or simply listen in. For more information, call (800) 880-5121.

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 More than 300 CD4 cells

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 4- to 6-year study
 Free IL-2 and lab tests

For people on antivirals with anemia

- Procrit (a red blood cell growth factor)

For people with advanced KS

- A new anti-angiogenesis drug SU5416
 Starves KS lesions
 May help individuals with KS swelling
 Compensation provided

HIVCare is a clinical research program of Saint Francis Memorial Hospital. For more information, please call Mark Bowers at 415-353-6215.

OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization—and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

George Allen Barnes



George Allen Barnes died on Sat-urday, August 7, due to conditions result-ing from leukemia and AIDS. He was

and AIDS. He was 32.

George grew up in Dover, New Jersey, until he enlisted in the Navy in 1984.

He served as a Communications Specialist until his honorable discharge in 1991. In 1992 George fulfilled his dream of moving to San Francisco. He lived there until September 1998, when he recturned home to his family in New Jersey to seek recovery from serious drug addiction and to attempt to restore his failing health. George successfully conquered his addiction, and, in spite of losing the battle with his health, the final ten months of his life while at home were very happy, comfortable and memorable, surrounded by a loving family.

family.

George is survived by his mother and father, Jean and Joseph Boutilier, of Denville, New Jersey, his younger brother Robert Pearson of Boonton, New Jersey, many aunts and uncles, and his eight year old son, Joshua, and his mother Becky. In San Francisco he leaves many dear friends, most especially: Eric Johansson, Eric Earsum, his former roommate Martin, and David, a close companion for whom he had the most profound affection.

George Fredrick Flater III November 1, 1954 — August 8, 1999



Freddy Flater's ashes were cast into the warm Atlantic waters off Florida's Ponce Inlet on Sunday, August 15, as his family, friends and companion of almost 19 years, Mike McKee of San Francisco, eathered

Francisco, gathered to say farewell. Fred was a true blond-haired, blue-eyed beach boy who called San Francisco home for almost 10 years

before returning to Daytona Beach, Florida, in 1997. He was a professional waiter for years at the Holiday Inn-Union Square and was a proud union man, organizing and protesting in the streets for Local 2 of 5.E's Hotel & Restaurant Employees Union. He also was an ardent AIDS activist and campaigned for several Democratic candidates over the years. Freeddy had a rare combination of intelligence, wit, compassion, sensitivity and humor that endeared him to everyone. He was the life of the party, but could be equally content to be at home watching Rugrats or Marry Stouffer's Wild America. And when he laughed his boisterous laugh, no one could resist his charm. We love you Freddy and miss you terribly. You

when he laughed his boisterous laugh, no one could resist his charm. We love you Freddy and miss you terribly. You are simply irreplaceable.

Survivors other than his longtime companion are his mother and father, Joyce and Jim Owens, Orlando, Florida; brothers Jimmy, Daytona Beach, and Tommy, Gainesville, Florida; sister Jennifer Frick, Orlando, end Clayton Frick, Hawthorne, Florida; friends, Dennis Dalton and Madlynn Croyle, Daytona Beach; and Robin Barthell and Dan Glasnovich, San Francisco; and loving inlaws, Harold and Betty McKee, Johnson City, Tennessee.

Friends will gather in Fred's memory at Sutro Heights Park above Cliff House at noon on Saturday, September 11. Donations can be made in Freddy's name to Project Open Hand or the National Organization for Women.

Ron Hoiseth



Long-time community member, businessman, and former weekend bartender Ronald E. Hoiseth died June 4 in San Francisco at age 56, Ronny had a real positive attitude in his battle with AIDS complications and cancer.

A son of rural Minnesota, Ron graduated from Crookston's Central High School in 1959 and eventually migrated West along with other Minesota natives, "Bella" and "Big Bird."

Ron had a good sense for business and carved out a successful 22-year career as purchasing manager of B.T. Office Products in San Francisco and Hayward. During the years when the Tenderloin was still fun and crazy but not dangerous, Ron was a weekend bartender at several of the bars.

Ronny was preceded in death by his father John T. Hoiseth, mother Myrtle Hojkins. Bevolden, and brother Larry Hoiseth, Sisters Carol Jean Herdt of San Bruno and Sherry Smack of Tucson, Arizona survive.

Bruno and Sherry Smack of Tucson,
Arizona survive.

Ron had friends from all sectors of
San Francisco, as well as Billy Lynch of
Antelope (near Sacramento) and Bill
Raudwer and Craig Harmon of Fresno.
The late Tony "Widow" Brown is probably toasting and roasting our friend in
the "next life."

At Boy's rougest, there was no for-

use next life."
At Ron's request, there was no formal memorial service. A joint "Celebration of Life" was hosted by the Pendulum bar for Ron and fellow customer Dennis Carey, who died in the same time period.

A family gathering at Oakdale Cemetary in Crookston, Minnesota will be held in the near future. Contribu-tions may be sent to the Cancer Fund in Ron's memory.

Bernard D. Pechter October 20, 1935 – September 5, 1999



Bernard D.
Pechter, a veteran
stockbroker, contributor to the arts
and gay activist
died in his sleep at
age 63 on Sunday,
September 5, at his
home in San Francisco. He had long
been ill with a liver

ailment.

Pechter was born October 20, 1935, in Chicago. He graduated with a BA degree in romance languages from the University of Illinois, in Urbana. He then worked for two years as a tour director for National Student Tours and traveled around Europe with student groups.

rector for National Student Tours and travded around Europe with student groups.

He settled in San Francisco in 1959, enrolled in courses at UC Berkeley, and soon began working on Montgomery Street. He was a stockbroker for 25 years with a number of firms, including Bear Stearns and Van Kasper.

He was an early supporter of gay causes, and was involved in the founding of Theater Rhinoceros, a theater troupe committed to gay and lesbian plays, in 1975. He served on the board of directors for two years.

In 1977, he initiated the idea of organizing San Francisco's first gay synagogue. He was one of three founders of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav (Hebrew for "Golden Gate") and continued as a supporter and participant until his death. Pechter was an early supporter of the American Conservatory Theater, and co-authored a comedy, "A Vast Diference," which was performed in a workshop production by ACT.

Pechter was also a fundraiser in the political campaigns of Harvey Milk, George Moscone, Dianne Feinstein, and Art Agnos.

He is survived by a brother and sister-in-law, Marvin and Norma Pechter, of Chicago, not nece Sandy Schutte of Hawaii, niece Marilyn Simon of Chicago, and nephew Allen Pechter of Phoenix.

A memorial service is scheduled on Thursday, September 9, 3:30 p.m., at Sha'ar Zahav, 290 Dolores Street, San Francisco.

Coulter Thomas



IML 1983 Love is Forever

Bill Heikkila

August 28, 1950 - April 28, 1999

Bill Heikkila died April 28,1999 in Santa Rosa, CA due to complications caused by AIDS Born in Portland, Oregon and growing up in Santa Cruz, Bill settled in the SF-Ray Area 1980. With his blond hair, blue eyes and charming good looks, Bill was the quintessent California Boy of the 60's and 70's. At the time of his death, Bill was a resident of t Russian River community of Guerneville.

Bill graduated from Pacific College and San Jose State University with degrees in History and Psychology respectively. Originally planning to become an elementary school teacher. this career veened toward the inavel field in the late 1970's He eventually found his way to the software industry, where he stayed until his disability began in 1991.

Onginally diagnosed with AIDS in 1989, his journey through the disease was seldom easy and usually difficult. He fought hard to maintain his sense of wonder and optimism, as well as his fascination with living. Bill took it upon himself to become well educated concerning his disease and was most certainly the leader of his health care team.

Through the many years of pain and illness, Bill never lost his love of travel and adventure, of meeting new people and visiting new places. He held a special place in his heart for the Hawaiian island of Maui, where his ashes will be spread during some future winter season, when the whales have returned.

Bill is survived by a large circle of family and loved ones spread throughout the United states. He is also survived by me, Wes Winter, his partner, soul mate and best friend for these past twelve years.

A private memorial service was held May 23,1999 in Duncans Mills. Memorial donations may be sent to The Sonoma County AIDS Emergency Fund, c. o Food for Thought, PO Box 1647, Forestville, CA 95436.

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Don't Ask

◄ page **17**

began on August 7.

The congressional letter asks the president "to honor the tra-dition of full and unfettered legislative debate in America by in-structing the Defense Depart-ment to drop charges" against

May.

"We are writing because we as elected representatives believe strongly in that principle em-bodied in the speech and debate clause of the American Consti-tution which seeks to extend full protection to members of leg-islative bodies from any sanction for comments they legitimately make in the course of legislative debate.

debate."

It went on to offer a brief history lesson of why the clause came to be and how it has been observed. And it concluded: "If Representative May is to be subjected to the severe sanction of expulsion from the military ... the principle that legislators." the principle that legislators must be free from having to answer in any other place for com-ments they choose to make in public debate will have been more seriously eroded than in any other single instance that we can recall in recent times."

They also explicitly stated, "We do not write this letter as a

we do not write this letter as a commentary on that policy" of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell."

May said he "appreciates any effort to resolve my situation."

But at the same time, he clearly was hesitant about this "special right for a legislator."

was hesitant about this "special right for a legislator."

"My situation is obviously about me, but there is more to it than that. The problem that I'm in is because of the policy." He worries that the focus on the policy might become lost policy might become lost.

policy might become lost.
May has spoken with Jim
Kolbe, the openly gay Congressman from Arizona, but he has
not asked Kolbe for help.
The legislator says he talks
"all the time" with John McCain
the Senator from Arizona who is

running for the Republican presidential nomination. But a call on this matter has not been returned. McCain was campaigning by bus in New Hamp-

shire.

"His office is treading lightly," May said with a hearty laugh. "McCain can say he supports me personally and opposes discrimination but he also supports 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell.' They're stuck, no matter what they say they can't win."

Stacey Sobel, an attorney with the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, is counseling May on the investigation. She was cautious about any impact the letter might have. "Just because this letter is out there doesn't guarantee any results." She expects the case to drag on into next year as the reservists conducting the investigation work only one weekend a month.

month.

To Sobel, this "highlights the failing of the policy. Here is a service member with an excellent record, who has demonstrated his ability. And the military, during a time of personnel shortages, is kicking out some of its best people. This is ludicrous."

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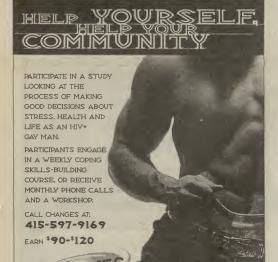


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Kick start

by Jim Provenzano

irls and boys, wrestling to-gether! Hot! Sweaty! Tum-bling around on top of each

other!"
New porn site? No, just ABC's
20/20 up to its usual lurid heterosexist twist on a very no-brainer
issue; co-gender wrestling.
In its Labor Day broadcast, be-

that were harping kids into admitting that wrestling the opposite sex might (horrors!) excite them, John Stossel found some (arnazing!) smart jocks among the teen grapplers.
"It's not about sex. It's the

"Ît's not about sex. It's the burning fire of your arms wrapping around your opponent," said one talented high school girl wrestler who should consider poetry to supplement her deserved athletic endeavors.

Unlike in TV Land (or the myopic "pasties and g-string" interpretation of "ladies" wrestling in last week's SF Bay Guardian which irked more than a few members of GGWC), co-gender contact sports were no problem at the Golden Gate Memorial Martial Arts and Wrestling Tournament, Arts and Wrestling Tournament, held over Labor Day weekend.

As a few stray basketballers thudded balls on the opposite court, in a shining white uniform, Bay Area Wrestling Association's own Les Morgan offered officiating tips for over a dozen seasoned and novice wrestlers of at least, two wrestlers of at least two

genders. Below him, two of

Below him, two of those wrestlers re-assumed an escape move, which developed into a discussion on the variances between scholastic and freestyle versions.

For G&WC member Ross Schmidt, it was another opportunity to enjoy his favorite sport. The returning San Franciscan (who also competed in Gay Games V) recently helped start a new chartered wrestling group in Seattle, the Kings Club. For his services, this year he was awarded GGWC's honor of Best Missionary.

Schmidt counters his wrestling

nonor of Best Missionary.
Schmidt counters his wrestling
with "lots of yoga stretches and
aerobics. When you get to be my
age, you pay the price, especially
when competing against someone
who practices regularly."

Form follows fun

Form follows fun
Meanwhile, across the hall in Eureka Valley Rec. Center's dance studio, shouts of "Get back, you #\$%&!" were thankfully not seriously directed at gay folk, but rehearsed expletives in a Street Fighting workshop given by International Association of Gay & Lesbian Martial Artists' Allen Wood (who received several medals at Gay Games V). He offered tips on how to prevent bar room fights with thugs, and when all else fails, the use of a delicate and ancient move more commonly known as the "sucker punch."

of course, wrestling and martial arts are not about violence, but the swift diversion of it through skill and art. Other workshops and sparring sessions in various martial arts were given throughout the weekend, includ-ing one by visiting Atlantan Chuck Chung (black belt and Gay Games V bronze medalist) who Games v bronze medalist) who started out in third grade "but only did it for a couple years," he said. "What brought me back when I was a teenager was I read too many comic books."



Chuck Chung, left, from Atlanta, demonstrates a take-down of Bryan Coleman, right, during a weekend of martial-arts workshops, self-defense classes, and socializing at the Eureka Valley Recreation Center.

What's the difference between getting a black belt and being a forth level black belt? How does

one increase one's ... beltness?
"I guess, it's how much experience you have in one art. The longer you stay with one art, and the further you go within the organization, things like that, basically

like that, basically how many don, or degrees," said Chung.
Jim Nickoff is definitely among the "donned." A black belt freestyle martial artist in Hopkido, Tai Kwon Do and Tonsudo, he studies and teaches at a school in the Sunset District. The GGV medalist also studied dichigan for 11 years, and here

medalist also studied in Michigan for 11 years, and here in the Bay Area for 12 more.

"When I was 13 my dad put me in karate classes, and my brother in judo," he said. "Because of my build, and the environment, it just worked really well and I stayed in it. When I went to Michigan State. I switched styles. Michigan State, I switched styles. When I moved here, I switched again. My body type works well for Korean styles. I'm tall, I have longer legs, longer arms. Whereas Japanese style, in my opinion, might work better for someone shorter. Karate's a lot of kicks

The whole in one

Teresa Galetti came into mar-

tial arts "because I wanted to fight," she said. "I'd always wanted to do it."

By age 32, she did. Starting in her native Philadelphia, she joined a school, "and I've been going for 22 years." Like many who learn multiple forms, Galetti started in Tai Kwon Do, but for the past six years has focused on Kung Fu, in-creasing her range of styles. When Galetti organized martial arts events for Gay Games IV in

arts events for Gay Games IV in New York, she was nervous, at first. "He was very helpful, behind the scenes, offering pointers I would have to consider. It has made mese the absolute necessity to be out, as a martial artist and a person. "With this instructor, we'd sparred for years. He'd been training me, and this was just an extension of this, and he's 65. I said, 'This tournament may be in the news. Will this cause you problems

'This tournament may be in the news. Will this cause you problems in the martial arts community?' and he said, 'This is martial arts. You're my family and I don't care.'" Part of her extended family is the "huge women's group" that studies self-defense and martial arts, many of them lesbians. "Being out makes it so much better," she said. "You come out because you want to be whole, to be your total self, in command, so in martial arts, one kick-starts the other. You can never tell, for other. You can never tell, for which martial artist, which will come first." ▼

Slain gay couple to be memorialized by SF Giants

by Katie Szymanski

ary Matson and Winfield ary Matson and Winfield Mowder, the gay couple shot to death in their Happy Valley home in July, are among the victims of violence to be commemorated at the San Francisco Giants' last Sunday baseball game in 3Com Park this Sunday, September 12. The Giants play the Atlanta Braves.

In the first collaboration of its

In the first collaboration of its In the first collaboration of its kind between a law enforcement agency and a national sports team, the game will honor the San Francisco Sheriff Department's second annual "Resolve to Stop the Violence" (RSVP) Day, with \$3 from each ticket sold going to violence prevention and victim empowerment programs in the San Francisco jails.

San Francisco jails.

Giants team members will escort violence victims and their families to the field during a pregame ceremony that will feature performances by rap star Coolio and blues singer Faye Carroll. Among the honored will be Matson and Mowder, as well as Yosemite murder victims Carole and Juli Sund and Joie Armstrong, and other victims of violence. A and other victims of violence. A crowd of 40,000 people is expect-

Matson and Mowder were allegedly slain by Benjamin and Tyler Williams, brothers who are also suspected of torching three Sacramento synagogues in June. The Williams brothers were arrested July 7 when they attempted to use Matson's credit card to purchase ammunition. ∇

Stonewall 30

◀ page 1

Shepard was greeted with shouts of, "We love you." from audience members Wednesday evening when she briefly spoke at the lighting ceremony. "You've showed me so much compassion, it's a little emotional for me tonight," she said of the right light with the property of the she said of the right light with the property of the said of the right light with the property of the said of the right light with the property of the said of the right light with the property of the said of the right light with the said of the right light with the right wi tonight," she said after pink lights were lit around Lake Merritt and searchlights flooded the sky over

Stonewall 30 events also took

Stonewall 30 events also took place in Johannesburg, South Africa, and Oakland's festivities featured panels from that country's AIDS quilt.

The Lake Merritt lighting ceremony was beautiful. King was clearly pleased with that event. He recounted the Stonewall riots, viewed as the starting point for recounted the Stonewall riots, viewed as the starting point for the modern gay rights movement. Thirty years ago, Puerto Rican drag queens and members of the gay and lesbian community fought against a police raid at the Stonewall Inn. "Slowly, over the last 30 years, things grew into parades and marches," King said. "The future of the gay movement is right here. We're all beautiful people and I'm proud to call Oakpeople and I'm proud to call Oak-land my home town."

With that, the ring of lights that surrounds Lake Merritt burst into a pink wonder, as the crowd

oakland Mayor Jerry Brown was on hand for the lighting ceremony, and encouraged people to have a good time. "Oakland is a Place of creativity and you did it.
Oakland is a place of human rights and diversity," Brown said.
Openly gay Berkeley City
Councilman Kriss Worthington

addressed the audience and called on queers to work to elect one of their own to the Oakland City Council. He reiterated that idea a few days later at a cocktail recep-tion held in the rotunda at Oak-



Oakland Mayor Jerry Brown

land City Hall. "Two years ago when I was elected I was very thrilled and ecstatic," Worthing-ton said. "Now, I'm lonely. It's ton said. "Now, I'm lonely. It's long past time to elect the first lesbian member of a city council in the East Bay." Brenda Crawford, president of the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club, was one person mentioned by Worthington as a potential candidate,

Mixin' it up

Several events took place last Saturday, September 4, including the cocktail reception, Bay Area Career Women's (BACW) Mega MIXX dance party, and the third annual Gay Mardi Gras. While at-tendance was somewhat light at amuda Gay Mardi Gras, with attendance was somewhat light at Saturday's Mardi Gras, a steady stream of people attended Sunday's event. King estimated the crowd at 10,000 over both days. Organizers charged \$7 per person admission to the Mardi Gras, where attendes on incompany and period. where attendees enjoyed a variety of stages featuring all kinds of music, comedy, and other activi-

ties. BACW's dance event was a

huge success, said organizer Jo Ann Driscoll. "We'll definitely consider it for next year," Driscoll told the B.A.R. "It was an enor-mous success." This was the first time there was a large lesbian dance party during the Gay Mardi Gras.

The cocktail reception was The cocktail reception was lightly attended and was actually supposed to be a big dinner gala under the stars outside City Hall. King told the B.A.R. that there were problems securing permits for that so they scaled down the event and moved it inside. Several leaders of the lesbian and gay community were recognized in. community were recognized, in-cluding the Reverend Troy Perry, founder of Metropolitan Com-munity Church; Julie Dorf, execu-tive director of the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Cay and Lesolan Human Rights Commission; Bongane C. Nyathi, former president of GLOW/South Africa; and Howard Wallace, a queer labor activist with Pride at Work.

Assemblywoman Audie Bock (Green-Oakland) attended the reception and spoke of the need for everyone to work together to de-feat the anti-gay Knight initiative that will appear on the March 2000 ballot. "Alameda County is known as the most diverse county and I'm happy to be here cele-brating the Stonewall rebellion," Bock said.

Perry recounted his visit to South Africa a couple of years ago and also spoke out against the Knight initiative. "I've been marrying same-sex couples for 31

rying same-sex couples for 31 years and I'm not going to quit," Perry said. "Whatever you do, Oakland, keep on keepin'on."

Nyathi, who now attends school in Berkeley, sent greetings from friends in South Africa.
"Thirty years ago, drag queens took their high heels and said 'No more.' You can do it," he said. "Take those high heels, scream, and say, 'Viva gays and lesbians!"

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Pot ID

◆ page 1

though most of these cases have been related to the amount of marijuana seized.

marjuana seized.

SB 848 would require local health departments to maintain a database with the name, date of birth, and social security number of all registered medicinal marjuans users and the americans the security numbers of the security numb juana users, and the names of the doctors who prescribed marijua-na to them. Local health officials would then be required to for-ward this information to the state health department database, which would then be accessible to state law enforcement officials.

Wayne Justmann, executive di-rector of the San Francisco Pa-tients' Resource Center, a new marijuana dispensary at 350 Di-visadero Street, has worked with the authors of both proposals. "Vasconcellos threw a bone to law enforcement agencies," Justmann enforcement agencies, Justinani told the Bay Area Reporter. "We're not criminals, we're medical marijuana users. Law enforcement wants to intimidate sick and dying people – that's the last thing that

people – that's the last thing that they need is intimidation."
"They've been trying to regis-ter AIDS patients for I don't know how long," said Dennis Peron, au-thor of proposition 215, the 1996 initiative which legalized medici-nal use of marijuana in California.
"How can they expect people to nal use of marjuana in California. "How can they expect people to trust government enough to give them your name and state that you're growing pot. The inference is that if you don't register you're guilty." Peron told the B.A.R. that he continues to face marijuana possession and distribution

charges stemming from the 1996 raid of the former Cannabis Buyer's Club, which also served as headquarters for proposition 215.

San Francisco Supervisors Mark Leno and Tom Ammiano, as well as District Attorney Terence Hallinan, oppose the Vasconcellos bill. Previously passed by the state Senate in an earlier version, SB 848 was recently amended by Vasconcellos to incorporate recommendations - including creation of the statewide database – from a task force convened by Lockyer. task force convened by Lockyer. The Assembly Appropriations Committee chaired by Carole Migden (D-San Francisco) subsequently approved the amended bill, allocating \$5 million needed to create the statewide database.

"If you're stopped by a cop, there can true in a number that?"

"It you're stopped by a cop, they can type in a number that's on the card. Otherwise you get arrested," Rand Martin, Vasconcellos's chief of staff, told the B.A.R. Martin said that he expects the bill to pass the Assembly, and return to the Senate for approval in its amended version before the session ends this week.

However, many observers, including Martin and Leno, expect Governor Gray Davis to veto the bill. "The governor opposes it beolli. In governor opposes it because it has got controversy." Martin told the B.A.R. "What we've been told by his office is that federal law prohibits" medicinal marijuana programs – the governor does not want to appear to buck federal law.

The local registry

Meanwhile, with a few excep-tions, most medicinal marijuana activists are expressing conceptu-al support for Leno's proposal for

a local registry program. Last month, Leno requested

that City Attorney Louise Renne draft legislation that would "create a county-wide registry and identi-fication program for individuals who use marijuana for medicinal purposes." According to Renne's office, the draft legislation should be ready for review by the Board of Supervisors by the end of Sep-tember. Information from the county registry would likely not be available to law enforcement officials except by coded number for purposes of confirmation. "We want to make sure that

this works for patients, physicians, providers, and law enforcement," Leno told the *B.A.R.* "Over time, I would hope that more and more patients would find it to their advantage to have a card so that they will be less likely to be hassled." The legislation will be modeled on programs currently underway in Oakland and in Mendocino

"I'm appalled at the amended bill out of Vasconcellos's office. It turns this into a police state," said Jeff Jones, who runs the Oakland Cannabis Buyer's Cooperative, which does not provide marijua-na, but provides referrals to supna, but provides referrals to sup-pliers, and runs an ID service for the city of Oakland. "Prior to ID service, we had seven to eight in-cidents of police harassment in Oakland [after passage of Propo-sition 215]. Since then, we've had only one incident." ▼

The San Francisco Patients' Resource Center at 350 Divisadero Street can be reached at (415) 552-8653.





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Warriors wanted

by Katie Szymanski

nti-rape activists are needed to support sexual assault survivors at San Francisco

Was survivors at San Francisco Women Against Rape (WAR).
The organization has announced its upcoming counselor training sessions, beginning Thursday, September 16, and running through the middle of October. For more information, call Janelle White at (415) 861-2024, ext. 311

war is also sponsoring a free creative writing workshop for sur-vivors of sexual assault, funded by the San Francisco Arts Commis-

the San Francisco Arts Commission. The workshop will run for eight weeks, beginning on October 6 at 7 p.m. Classes will run weekly on Wednesday evenings. The workshop, entitled "Fearless Words," is led by published writers Elaine Beale and Jamie Lee Evans, and is specifically designed to help survivors find their creative voices. For more information, call (415) 861-2024, ext. 308, and leave a message. WAR will contact para message. WAR will contact par-ticipants with further details, including the location of the workshop, after a brief interview. ▼

Youth shelter

◆ page 3

for approximately \$600,000, inifor approximately \$600,000, initially intending to occupy the building immediately as a private residence. A retired school-teacher, Hansen said that he has been staying in the vacated gym, and initially had proposed continuing to live in the space while it was being used as a youth shelter, an idea that was apparently set aside. set aside.

"At this price, the proposal is certainly not as attractive as it was," said Leno's statement. "Supervisor Katz's office and mine will proceed with our search for our proposal. We all need to be as creative as possible in our efforts to design a program."

Asked to comment on Leno's

statement, Patrick Batt, president of the Merchants of Upper Mar-ket and Castro (MUMC) and cochair of the community advisory committee evaluating the shelter proposal, said, "I have a feeling they may have fashioned this as a graceful exit."

Asked about the controversies Asked about the controversies swirling around the shelter proposal, Hansen remarked, "If there's egg on anyone's face, I hope it's mine and not Mark's." ▼

The next advisory committee meeting takes place Thursday, September 23, at 7 p.m., at the Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy, 19th and Collingwood streets.



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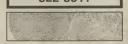
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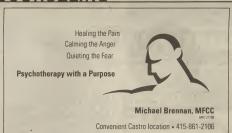
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The following person(s) Mohan Roy Nair have abandoned the use of the use of the fictitious business name known as: Akshaya Really, Located at: 1855 Mission Street, #265, San Francisco, Ca. 941.03. The fictitious business name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: 64/497. This business was conducted by: a individual signed Mohan Roy Nair. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of San Francisco County on date indicated by file stamp above. August 19,1999. AUGUST 26, SEPT. 2,9,16 1999

STATMENT FILE NO. 234215

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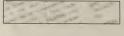




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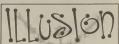
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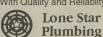
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'Shopping and Fucking' director, 'Clear Day' diva, more in 'Backstage' column.

Devilish duet

'Faust/Faustus,' part of the 8th SF Fringe Fest.



The gospel truth Choir director David A. Tobin takes you 'Higher.'



BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS& ENTERTAINN

Vol. 29 • No. 36 • 9 September 1999





The dress makes the man by Erin Blackwell

Some Like It Hot' in new 35mm print

ne of the queerest films ever made, Billy Wilder's Some Like It Hot (1959) takes its title from a bit of dialogue. Tony Curtis, in millionaire drag, says to Marilyn Monroe, "I suppose some like it hot. Personally, I prefer classical." Explicitly, the character's talking about musical genres, but his implicit obsession — and the film's — is performance. He also happens to be lying in order to get her into bed. The image of Curtis and Jack Lemmon in drag is familiar to many who have never seen the movie, since it's one of Hollywood's high

comic moments. But you'll have to see the film

comic moments. But you'll have to see the film (again) in order to count the ways various characters are made to perform multiple versions of themselves in order to negotiate social space. Call it hypocrisy, fraud or the old shell game, travesty is posited as the way of the world.

The opening sequence of the film, which begins a week's run Friday at the Lumiere, is a chase. A patrol car following a hearse picks up speed, puts on its siren, and finally opens fire. The morticians unpack their tommyguns and

page 38 ▶

by Roberto Friedman and Roman Numerals

migod, it's 9/9/99, and if SF hasn't dropped off into the Pacific depths before you read this, we have survived yet another numerological emergency, and it's on to the Big 00.

There's no doubting that ACT Artistic Director Carey Perloff is an intelligent and articulate advocate for the theatrical arts, but last week she proped off with the followers.

week she popped off with the fol-

lowing sound bite to one of the local dailies (as of this writing, there still are two): "The Threepenny Opera is like the Rent of the '20s." Oh that's right, Rent, wasn't that once likened to the Hair of the '90s? (You remember Hair it the '90s? (You remember Hair, it was sort of the New Faces of 1939 of the '60s.)

of the '60s.)

Maybe an unforeseen benefit of the upcoming '00s is that it will stop decade-generalizers dead in their clichés until someone figures out what to call them. But we're not betting on it.





Esther Williams

Big-boned gal

Hands down, the highlight of the quite dishy book is when she discovers that her lover, macho sex symbol/film star Jeff Chandler, is a fervid cross-dresser: "Jeff was standing in the middle of the bedstanding in the middle of the bed-room in a red wig, a flowered chif-fon dress, expensive high-heeled shoes, and lots of makeup. ...While my heart was screaming, part of my brain was calculating the extremes he had gone to for this outfit. This wasn't Kmart clothing. Were those Gucci shoes? I had seen that dress in Vogue!" Williams can't deal with it and dumps Chandler, departing with

dumps Chandler, departing with one final gesture. "Jeff, do you mind if I give you a fashion tip be-fore I leave you forever? ... When I looked in your closet, I saw blous-



Jeff Chandler

es with polka dots, dresses with polka dots, even hats with big polka dot bows.'

"So?' he said.
"I opened the car door on my side and looked at him lovingly for the last time. 'Jeff, you're too big for polka dots.'"

Hotel California

We've got to stop going to these hotel openings, they're such easy pickings for items. When the Hotel Palomar opened last week amid a flurry of press and some little fanfare, Meg Mackay was crooning stan-dards in the 5th Floor Living Room, accom-panied by **Billy** Philadelphia on piano and various luxury suites were open for our inspection

on the 5th and 6th floors, and staffed thors, and staffed with wine and champagne bars. This led to many hilarious drinking-in-the-elevator jokes (it must be illegal); and briefly we entertained the notion of locking ourselves into one of the open rooms and ordering up something bubbly from room service. But we restrained ourselves

bly from room service. But we re-strained ourselves.

It was Romance Meets Finance at the Palomar, as hotel industry executives met and mingled with investment bankers, notoriously big flirts. A new and untutored bartender was shown how to use a waiter's corkscrew on a bottle of good red by an account consultant. It was the beginning of what should be a lifetime of pleasure.



Paul Reubens

Pee-wee grease

The current Vanity Fair interview with Pee-wee Herman creview with Pee-wee Herman cre-ator Paul Reubens is billed as the first press op since the scandal eight years ago in which Reubens was publicly humiliated for being caught "exposing himself" in the audience of an adult-movie theater in Sarasota, Florida. As VF reporter Bruce Handy aptly points out, the public disgrace and professional blacklisting that resulted from this offense (Reubens was al-legedly "masturbating!")

far outweighed the consequences that befell heterosexual pretty boy actor **Hugh Grant** when he was
caught with a hooker
on Sunset Blvd.

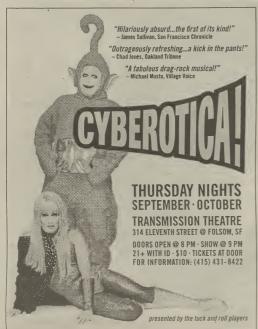
on Sunset Blvd.

Reubens appears
to be on the comeback trail (his part
in the current release Mystery Men,
the signal VF treatment), but still
refreshingly bitter about his drubbing by the tabloid press (he's
shown holding a copy of the NY
Post cover with the infamous Sarasota County Sheriff's Dept. mug
shot). Even though Pee-wee's Playhouse has been off broadcast TV
for an eternity, some of us will house has been off broadcast Iv for an eternity, some of us will never forget the lech Pee-wee obvi-ously had for the humpy lifeguard **Tito**, or the ep when Pee-wee mar-ried the fruit salad. It proved you can love whatever fruit you want.

Comic strips

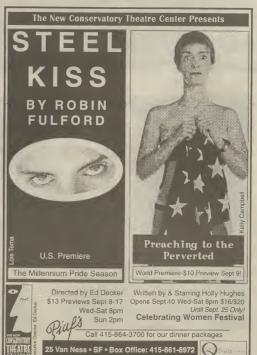
Juno Books has published a comic book with a queer difference,

page 53 ▶





"Outrageously funny... Best clate movie of the year!"



Queer and on the fringe

8th Annual San Francisco Fringe Festival

by Richard Dodds

Il fringe theater is queer theater, at least in the sense that it's assertively not part of the mainstream. And some of the attractions in the San Francisco Fringe Festival are queer theater in the more familiar socio-sexual ways. Here are brief looks at two such offerings among the 51 pro-ductions being staged at four downtown venues through Sept. 19.

'Faust/Faustus A Duet for Devils'

Goethe's Faust and Christopher Marlowe's Doctor Faustus, variations on the same dealing-with-the-devil character, become

with-the-devil character, become lovers in this production arriving from Eugene, Oregon.

"One of the ideas is to counter the way Faust was used by the church and state as a teaching play based on fear," said creator Leon Johnson, who also plays one of the Fausts. "In this version, they find a way to defy damnation."

Johnson, a Marlowe zealot, has been working on Faust/Faustus.

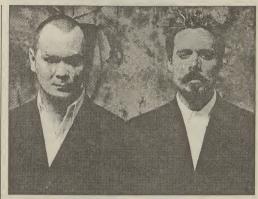
been working on Faust/Faustus with 10 collaborators since 1992, but couldn't finish it until he per-sonally visited Deptford, England, where Marlowe was murdered and buried in 1593. "I feel a palpable connection to Marlowe," he said.

In the Faust legend, the title character trades his soul to the devil in exchange for enhanced knowledge, and in the end must pay the price.

"There is evidence that Mar-

"There is evidence that Marlowe's Faust comes to us in corrupted form, that he wanted Faust to defy the devil," Johnson said. "This is about taking back Marlowe's work, which was designed to be subversive and provocative."

Marlowe has become "the poster boy for new queer theory," Johnson said. "It's clear to me that he was aggressively challenging all of the acceptable standards and norms, including sexuality. Edward II [Marlowe's play about the



Leon Johnson and Christopher Biddle in Faust/Faustus

Through the use of rear projections, Johnson's play also makes connections between the Black Death that swept through Europe, and the AIDS crisis. "In Europe, and the AIDS crisis. "In the 16th century, fears were fueled by the church and government that it was punishment for a sinful population," Johnson said. "Real bells were ringing in my head over parallels to what's happening with AIDS. The same forces of igno-rance are afoot."

rance are afoot."

Johnson grew up in South Africa, appalled by "a culture that celebrated violence." His mother "Saint Mom," he calls her — had no intention of seeing her children serve in the South African military, and arranged a family exodus that brought Johnson to the Bay Area nearly 20 years ago.

He became an actor in San Francisco, performing with the Magic and Eureka theaters as well as the politically radical Red Flag Theatre. He also had his first love affair with another man here.

After San Francisco, he wound

After San Francisco, he wound up teaching visual communica-tions at the University of Iowa, where he met and married Megan

O'Connell. "In each other, we found someone who could heal the other," Johnson said. "We both had tender backgrounds."

O'Connell and Johnson are both bisexual, Johnson said, and teach at the University of Oregon in Eugene, where they live with their sons Marlowe and Leander.

"I'm trying not to put pressure on Marlowe," Johnson said, "but there are times I think he may be the psychic emotional renaissance of Christopher Marlowe."

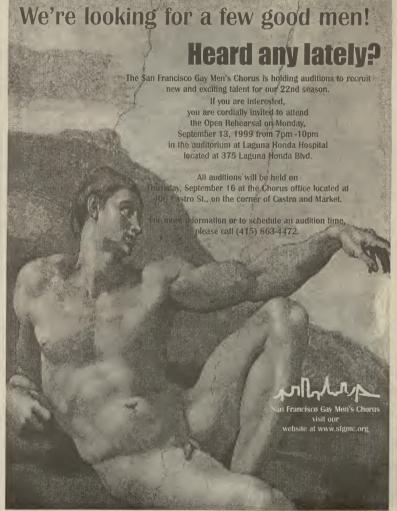
'Moog Bandits Give Me the Clap

They call themselves page 52 ▶









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Sing 'Amen,' gay brother

Choir director David Tobin takes you 'Higher and Higher'

by Mark Mardon

atiny lavender robes over full-figured bodies; hips swaying to soulful grooves; arms and hands reaching for the heavens, inviting the love of Jesus; a choir director who bounds this way and that, flailing his arms to the rhythm, pointing and swerving calling dimping and swerving calling. ing, dipping and swerving, calling responses, exuding the sweat, magnetism, and talent of a latterday Sylvester — all these are first impressions of a show that just blew into town, a show that could well have you shouting, "Amen," along with hundreds of others.

Gospel music with a gay sensibility: that's what gives Higher and bility: that's what gives Higher and Higher, now playing at Theatre on the Square, its hugely entertaining flair. The show may be grounded securely by its soulful diva, gospel singer supreme Queen Esther Marrow, but it's lifted up and over the top by the Harlem Gospel Singers' flamboyant choir supervisor, David A. Tobin.

"Gays have had a significant

"Gays have had a significant presence in the Black church for a long time," declares Tobin when I meet him in his publicist's office, not far from the quaint theater, just off Union Square, where Higher and Higher is staging its run through October 3. "But the church hasn't always been good to gay people. Many times, the church turns its back on them in their times of distress." their times of distress.



Harlem Gospel Singers choir director David A. Tobin

As in all forms of music and As in all forms of music and theater, gays make their presence felt in gospel music, adds Tobin. For him, being flagrantly gay in the gospel music scene "has never been a problem, but I've seen it be bad for others."

One truth he discovered long are which may half account for

ago, which may help account for

the passion and diligence he brings to his performance, is that in gospel singing, as in most performing arts, "if you were good, it didn't matter what your sexuality was."

That whirl

And Tobin is very good indeed, not just in his singing—in fact, he sings very little in the show, serving more as the all-important choir master—but in his showmanship. It's Tobin's vivaciousness, energy precision showmanship. It's Tobin's viva-ciousness, energy, precision moves, and flair for keeping everyone in the groove that whip up a huge head of steam and pro-pel the show forward through two hand-clapping, body-swaying, foot-stomping acts. Those same qualities clearly earn Tobin the re-spect of his fellow performers, from the exalted Queen Esther Marrow herself to outrageously



Queen Esther Marrow

flamboyant and gifted gay pianist Anthony Evans, to the band members, soloists and choir members. Tobin is the whirlwind around whom everyone revolves, the dynamo pumping up the performers and keeping them moving to a tempo that only a true disco queen could sustain.

Which gets to a big part of Tobin's career. From an early age in his hometown of Trenton, New Jersey, Tobin was displaying his

in his hometown of Trenton, New Jersey, Tobin was displaying his vocal prowess in churches and clubs. He acquired much of his theatrical flair through the Trenton Civic Opera Company, where he appeared in such productions as Showboat, Rigoletto, La Boheme,

The King and I, and others.

He had a special fondness for high-energy dancing, which led him to patronize gay dance clubs, in which he felt right at home.

"Dr. Love' was the first song I ever danced to in a club," Tobin says "It sounded like acoust."

says. "It sounded like gospel."

In New Jersey — "the home of House," Tobin declares — he came to the forefront of the dance-music scene after he met dance-music scene after ne met DJ Nelson Roman, and the two recorded a stand-out single, "Plaything," which held special appeal for kinkier gay men, since "it was kind of a leather, tease-me/heat-me kind of song." me/beat-me kind of song."

Within a week after renowned

DJ Tony Humphries (the origina-tor of "the New Jersey Sound") picked up the song and played it for his listeners, Atlantic Records signed Tobin to record for the label. There he produced such dance classics as "I Don't Want To Go" and "Don't Know Much."

Go" and "Don't Know Much."

Tobin immersed himself in a singing career that perfectly suited his openly gay sensibilities. When not lending his vocal talents and songwriting skills to albums by Valeri Johnson, Les Paul Rouge, and the like, or working with Anita Baker, Billy Paul, Edwin Hawkins and other soulful singers, Tobin embraced the glamour and glitz of drag shows, singers, Tobin embraced the glamour and glitz of drag shows, and was a self-described "drag hag." He thrived in the world of drag queens, helping the "girls" with their makeup and wigs, doing costumes, and eventually sharing the stage with such divas as Lypsinka, Lady Bunny, and Barbara Tucker.

It was after he auditioned for and secured a place in the Harlem

and secured a place in the Harlem Gospel Singers choir some seven years ago that he began the cur-rent phase of his career, which has taken him and the group from Milan to Paris, Barcelona to Madrid, Munich to Berlin, London to Athens, and now to San Francisco for the launch of *Higher and Higher's* American tour.

Francisco for the launch of Higher and Higher's American tour.

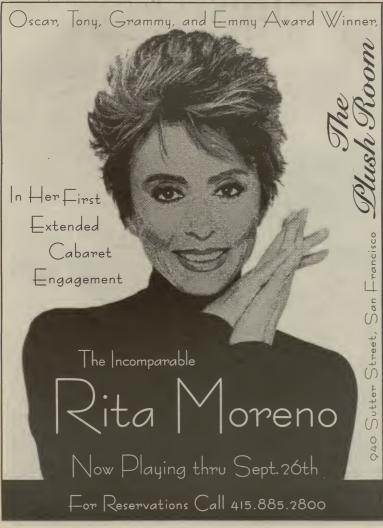
After the group's first four European tours with Queen Esther Marrow, Tobin was invited to direct the choir, a role in which he excels.

Though highlights of the show's world tour include performances for Pope John Paul II (three times), the President and First Lady (at Ford's Theatre in Washington, DC, to celebrate Black History Month), and for 100,000 dancing fans at the Montreal Jazz Fest, one of Tobin's favorite gigs was in London earlier this year, at that city's Stonewall celebration. There, Tobin wore "a fabulous purple suit" in front of some 8,000 cheering and clapping lesbians and gay men.

Backstage in his dressing room after the second night of Higher and Higher's run, Tobin has slipped out of the glittery suit he wears in the show's second half, and now wears only a tank top over his sweat-drenched upper torso. He's a fit man with a hefty build, yet every bit the diva, surrounded as he is by dozens of jars and bottles.

yet every bit the diva, surrounded as he is by dozens of jars and bottles of Mac Cosmetics. "RuPaul and me are brother and sister in the cosmetics world," he grins.

Higher and Higher, starring Queen Esther Marrow and featuring the Harlem Gospel Singers, plays through Oct. 3 at Theatre on the Square, 414 Mason St. Tickets are \$30-\$40. Call 433-9500 or BASS.



In-your-face title, gritty story of youth

by Richard Dodds

new theater season brings the debut of a new biweek-In deput of a new Diweek-ly stage column, this week with interviews with the director of Shopping and Fucking and the star of On a Clear Day You Can See Forever, plus a little of this and a little of that.

Down Under director

"I'm a gay man, what can I tell you?" Michael Edwards informed the waitress as he constructed a fat-free lunch from a greasy-spoon menu. She smiled. No Five Easy Pieces diner scene here.



Michael Edwards

The Australian-born, Los An-The Australian-born, Los Angeles-based director is in San Francisco to stage Shopping and Fucking, opening Sept. 16 at Theatre Rhino (861-5079). It's a smaller venue and with considerably less resources than the the-

ater and opera compa-nies that usually em-

nies that usually employ his services.
"I'm pretty mainstream, and the idea of working at a gay theater and having that freedom has always been appealing," he said over a plate of grilled chicken and unadorned lettuce. "Whatever you do has the potential of offending someone, so most theaters take the road of least resistance. Gay theaters are the last bastions of risk-taking."

risk-taking."

Among those mainstream theaters here and in Australia where Edwards has recently worked are the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, the Melbourne Theatre Company, Indiana Rep, and Shakespeare Santa Cruz, where he was also artistic director for seven years. It's unlikely that any of them would have Shopping and Fucking

on the marquee.

It's not just the in-your-face title that would rule it out, but also the gritty and graphic story of a group of disaffected English a group of disaffected English young people selling drugs, souls, and their bodies to survive. "These kids are Thatcher's kids after she helped destroy a sense of communal responsibility," Edwards said.

The play was a London hit in 1996 for first-time dramatist Mark Ravenhill. Last year, it arrived in New York, where newspapers, as New York, where newspapers, as they did in England, had to come up with creative ways to commu-nicate the unprintable title. Edwards was in Australia when Theatre Rhino contacted him

about directing Shopping and Fucking. "They sent me the play, and I was pleasantly surprised," he said. "It's a more enriching experience than the title would suggest."

Casting the show was a double challenge for Edwards, both be-

cause of the young ages that the script specifies and because the budget doesn't permit hiring the kind of experienced actors with whom Edwards usually works.

"At first I thought, 'Oh my God, this is a different game,'' he

said. "But there is a raw talent that shows up that can be exciting when correctly channeled. Now I love them. I'm embracing what is, and I find it stimulating."



Andrea Marcovicci

'Clear Day' diva

Whoops. We thought we were calling Andrea Marcovicci at home in Orange County when we learned otherwise. "Orange County? Me? Think twice, baby."

A move in '97 with husband and well daughter from Lelling.

and small daughter from Holly-wood to Studio City was enough of a concession to conformity for

Marcovicci, who considers San Francisco her spiritual

home.
"I'll take the fog and everything just to be there," said the cabaret and concert star who met her husband here. "To me,

band here. "To me, it's the most romantic city in the

Marcovicci is back in the city to star in *On a Clear Day You Can See Forever* for 42nd Street Moon (621-7797), the outfit that presents staged concerts of "lost musicals." Marcovicci could write a small book on lost musicals.

Backstage

small book on lost musicals.
Her first Broadway musical,
Ambassador with Howard Keel,
shuttered in five days. Her first
starring vehicle, Nefertitit, closed
in Chicago after savage reviews.
Next came a starring role opposite
Anthony Newley in Chaplin,
which ran out of money during its
out-of-town tryout in Los Angeles. They were heartbreaking experiences for a young performer.

research they were heart of the artificial experiences for a young performer.

"I was shattered, but I haven't thought of those things in years because I've been so happy for so long," she said. "What I love about my career is that I'm not auditionine." Purindemond and I so tioning. I'm in demand, and I go where I've been asked to sing, and

I usually have a great time."

Marcovicci doesn't have the strongest voice in the world, but strongest voice in the world, but there is something in her stage persona that usually wins audi-ences over. "I think the reason people are coming to hear me sing," she said, "is because there is sing, see said, is because there is no fourth wall between me and them. I happen to be one of those performers with no fear of the audience, no fear of communications.

ing, no fear of touching."
Marcovicci would love to head back to Broadway in new musical, but she's choosier now. "Whatever I do has to allow for the complexities of what I am. I have a complex voice and a complex na-ture. I feel some musicals wish you to be two-dimensional. I need

someone to understand that musical theater can be more eccentric than that,"

Coward's closet

In 1967, two years before Stonewall, Noel Coward wrote a play that imagined a time when sodomy laws would be repealed and the fact that someone is capable of loving another is more important than the specifics of gender. If Coward kept one foot in the closet in A Song at Twilight, the play was a brave undertaking for a world-famous personality.

the play was a brave undertaking for a world-famous personality. It's not a play that turns up much, so it's an intriguing novel-ty to encounter it at the Dean Lesher Center in Walnut Creek, Lesher Center in Walnut Creek, where the American Citizens' Theatre (925-943-7469) is presenting it through Sept. 19. But the production itself is confused, and there is a near-fatal miscasting in the role that Coward himself once played, a role suggested by Somerset Maugham.

Richard Aiello, sporting the worst age makeup since I played an elderly judge in a high school pro-



Gretchen Grant

duction of *Harvey*, is smaller than life in a role that calls for just the opposite. But Sandy Hillard has opposite. But sandy finiard has some nice moments as the charac-ter's wife, who has long suspected that her husband prefers men to women, and Gretchen Grant is flamboyantly fabulous as a woman from the past who confirms it.
Allen McKelvey's direction in-

termittently strays into the surre-

al, including a waiter who is dressed up like Allen Cummings' understudy in *Cabaret* and whose mannered movements come from another play, if not from another

Short scenes

Short scenes

Cyberotical, the tranny rock musical, is returning to the Transmission Theatre this week following a 13-week run this past spring. Back then, we enjoyed its unashamed silliness and informal energies.

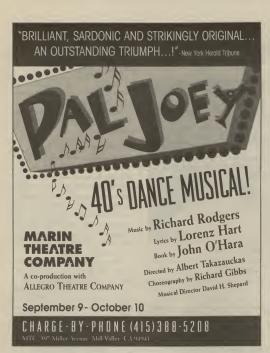
Local cabaret star Ruth Hastings heads the cast of The World Goes Round, a revue of songs by Kander and Ebb opening Sept. 16 at Piaf's (864-3700).

Nancy Dussault, a TV personality with deep stage credits, including the new Threepenny Opera at ACT, will talk about her career on Sept. 13 as part of the Perform-

on Sept. 13 as part of the Performing Arts Library and Museum's Conversations series. Reservations (255-4800) are a must. ▼

Richard Dodds can be contacted







Rita Moreno is in the house at the Plush Room

by Jim Van Buskirk

'm a star! I can do anything!'
Rita Moreno chortled as she
insisted that her accompanists
stop mid-song and let her start
over, because she "came in late" on
the complicated lyrics of Dave Frishberg's "Blizzard of Lies." Fortunately, the diva had just the right
amount of self-mocking awareness last week at the Plush Room
to pull it off.

to pull it off.
Touted as "the incomparable Rita Moreno," Rosa Dolores Alverio was born in Puerto Rico and moved to New York at the age of five. She is the only female performer to have won all four of show biz's top honors: the Oscar for her role as Anita in West Side Story, a part originated on Broadway by Chita Rivera, with whom she is sometimes confused (the Off-Broadway review Forbidden Broadway once included a hilarious "America" parodying arch-rivals "Chita" and "Rita"); Emmys for her appearances on The Muppet Show and The Rockford Files; a Tony for her role as Googie Gomez in The Ritz; and a Grammy for The Electric Company Album.

Sophisticated in a tailored black jacket over a floor-length white sequined skirt, Rita opened

Rita Moreno

a curly hairdo made her look a little like Lena Horne. Most of the audience was surprised to learn that the clever lyrics, along with the music, had been penned by none other than Fred Astaire.

"I've been dreaming of this for a long time. This beats concerts."

- Rita Moreno, on cabaret

with a jazzy "If Swing Goes, I Go, Too." Scatting her way through the lively number while sashaying around the tiny stage and swinging her hips, she immediately belied her 67 years. Her expressive dark eyes rolling to and fro under Moreno's set was an eclectic mix of material, some of which did not seem particularly wellsuited to her talents. As nice as it was to hear "On the Sunny Side of the Street," Harold Arlen's "Happiness is a Thing Called Joe," "If I Loved You," and Irving Berlin's "Lost in His Arms," her interpretations did not bring much new to the standards. Her voice, not particularly strong at the top of her register, was more effective in selling songs like "Guess Who I Saw Today" (as poignant today as it must have been in New Faces of 1952) and "New York City Blues." Her attempt at a rap song was amusing, but ultimately unnecessary. That, and other New York specific material, made me wonder if the Plush Room gig was a tryout for her advertised engagment at the Algonquin Hotel later this Fall.

"I've been dreaming of this for a long time. This beats concerts," Moreno enthused in the middle of her first full-length cabaret show. She went on to introduce the veteran accompanists who obligingly catered to their star's every whim: her "percussionist" (as opposed to drummer) Ted Summer, Al Obidiniski on bass, and Itvijae Joseph on vijano.

and Irving Joseph on piano.

Moreno recounted a few stories, but she revealed not nearly enough about what her years as a performer have been like. She should capitalize on her history in the business, sharing her experiences and singing songs that she has either performed, or explaining why her choices hold personal resonance for her. She had fun mimicking her mother's thick accent massacring English (think Googie Gomez). Upon being introduced to Moreno's Jewish doctor husband, Mama apparently asked, "Jew are a yew?" (Maybe you had to be there.) But it was a treat to hear "El Mar" and "Brazil" rendered in Moreno's native tongue

Minor misgivings aside, the standing ovation that Moreno received after her closing number, "Before the Parade Passes By," indicates that the parade is definitely not passing by this show biz veteran. ▼

Rita Moreno continues through Sept. 26 (Sept. 26 is a benefit for Brava! for Women in the Arts) at The Plush Room, York



Going Greek

'The Orpheus Oracle' on CD

by Michael McDonagh

he ancient Greek myth of Orpheus has inspired many composers. Monteverdi wrote the first still-performed opera, Orfeo, in 1607. The poetmusician was also the subject of Gluck's operatic version (1762); Liszt wrote his symphonic poem "Orpheus" (1853-54) as a curtainraiser for it. In our own time, the Orpheus myth has continued to attract composers and artists. Two of the best-known are Stravinsky, who wrote his "Orpheus" ballet for Balanchine (1948), and Philip Glass, who based his 1992 opera Orphée on Cocteau's 1949 film classic of the same name, which starred his lover Jean Marais. Now two more American composers contribute their musical meditations on the subject in a new Vienna Masters CD, The Orpheus Oracle. Stark and sensual, these five pieces by Darrell Handel (1934-) feature the Cincinnati Philharmonia under Samuel and Jindong Cai, as well as the Oronoque Trio and the Masala Quartet.

Samuel treats another myth in "Hyacinth from Apollo" (1998), but the connection to Orpheus is a strong one. Apollo, after all, was the god of music, and according to some, the father of Orpheus, too. Jack Larson (he was Jimmy Olsen in the original TV series Su-

perman) wrote a poem for Samuel to use which centers on Greek love and AIDS. "I had lost many friends to the plague, as had Gerhard," he recalls, "and was moved to express that grief." The composer dramatizes the story of the two lovers — sung here by tenor Matthew DiBattista — by having a sax (Wataru Sato) play Apollo, and a solo violin (Kio Seiler) Hyacinth, whom he accidentally killed with a discus. (Robert Graves says that the insanely jealous West Wind was also in love with Hyacinth, and sent the discus in his direction out of malice.) Samuel's setting captures the poignancy — there are exquisite sections depicting Apollo flying down from heaven — and the tragedy of this story. The Masala Quartet and assorted musicians, under Cai, bring it to life.

sections depicting Apollo flying down from heaven — and the tragedy of this story. The Masala Quartet and assorted musicians, under Cai, bring it to life.

Samuel's "Remembering Orpheus" (1997) is a companion piece to his "Looking at Orpheus Looking" (1971), which he wrote for the Oakland Symphony when he was its music director. And while that work was contemplative and nearly static, this one is a mercurial showpiece for sax (Wataru Sato again) and large orchestra. Basically a concerto, it's full of dramatic contrasts and very virtuosic — everybody gets a workout. Samuel's orchestra gives a tense, exciting performance. A harsh landscape is evoked. The piece also seems to be about the struggle of the musician (Or-

pheus here, but any musician) to be heard in an uncaring world.

be heard in an uncaring world.
Darrell Handel's 1997 "Orpheus Left His Heart" is a far less violent piece, but like Samuel's it's also a concerto — for harp and an orchestra of winds and chimes. (The harpist here is the composer's daughter Suzanne Handel, and the conductor is Samuel again.) Slow and spacious, this Orpheus setting is also a bit like a Mahler adagio or a formal lament by Lou Harrison, and when it stops, it seems to vanish into dreamtime. Handel's "Orpheus Oracle" (1998) is a spin-off cast as a piano trio. Strongly presented

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Li

here by the Oronoque Trio, it's also sharper, harsher, and in a way more Greek.

Samuel's 1974 "Requiem for Survivors 'and suddenly it's evening..." — conducted here by Cai — has a Greek feeling, too. Written for the Los Angeles Philharmonic when the composer served as Mehta's assistant conductor, it takes its subtitle from a poem by the Italian poet Quasimodo, whose work is often

steeped in ancient Mediterranean
— and Greek — landscapes.
Samuel's piece is also based on the
"Lacrimosa" from Mozart's Requiem, and was prompted by the
tragic and untimely death of the
composer's multi-talented actor
friend Scott Runyon. Perhaps
Samuel has evoked his theatrical
spirit in a passage full of jazz
flourishes. But it really doesn't
matter if that's so. What matters is
that Samuel has successfully
blended different kinds of musical time. The low-down and the
elevated get their due. Death and
love meet head on, just as they did
for Orpheus. ▼

One from the heart

New Lou Harrison CD

by Michael McDonagh

odern music has been dominated by works which aren't exactly audience-friendly. Composers have also often written "for history," with the audience left sitting out in the cold. The music of Lou Harrison, however, always seems to consider the audience, and seeks to please both mind and ear. Maybe his composer friend Virgil

Thomson said it best when he wrote that two of Harrison's pieces are "not about anything in the world but how beautiful the materials of music can be when handled with tenderness and intelligence." All of the 6 pieces in Koch International's new Lou Harrison CD have these qualities. Spanning a 50-year period in the composer's output, they also show how amazingly personal and intimate his music has been.

Even Harrison's big Suite for



Violin with String Orchestra (1973,1993) has these characteristics. Classically severe yet intense-

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Louise, but not as in Davies

Stravinsky and Messiaen operas on disc

by Tim Pfaff

y the time you read this, the music season will have start-ed in earnest — the impor-

be seen. It's hard to remember a season this blandly anticipated, so it's hardly too early to sound the note of good luck to us all. With the local dailies in escrow or on the auction block, it's even uncertain what we have to expect by way of commentary on it all. Who knows? The pages of your favorite, frankest weekly may yet reach new peaks of importance —

tance of being which remains to

and impertinence. Stay tuned.

It's all deliciously off kilter Labor Day, the harbinger of Fall as the groundhog is of Spring, came late this year — but not late enough to save the termi-

nally unprepared among the season's paraprofessionals. Next Monday, the Opera is unveiling a new production of Gustave Charpentier's Louis with a price tag hover-

around mil-

which must be a company record — yet no one in the local record stores seems to have noticed. stores seems to have noticed. Louise may not qualify as a bona fide operatic rarity, but the only people you're likely to find who can remember more than "Depuis le jour," the opera's one hit tune, probably won't be able to remember much else, and in any case surely won't let on when they've last heard or worse, seen the last heard or, worse, seen the piece. (It last played here in the '60s.)

Even for the War Memorial battle-scarred, some preparation for the undertaking is in order. Good luck with that unless you're among the few who haven't consigned their LPs to cold storage (or worse). There are perfectly (or worse). There are perfectly creditable recordings of the work available recordings of the work available on CD — a swell one with Ileana Cotrubas and Domingo in peak form, and a Bubbles reissue with the half-life of carbon — and Tower's very pleased with itself that it has them on order. itself that it has them on order. They're due in stores in time to be souvenirs. (Inquiries at non-Tower outlets were met with a simple "What?") So, supertitles, the predictably no-nonsense direction of Lotfi Mansouri and the sheer luminosity of megastar Renée Fleming will have to put the show across for all but the most seasoned veterans. So much for courting a young opera audifor courting a young opera audience. On the other hand, this is a ence. On the other hand, this is a premiere that's going to require clothes, so at least there'll be more time for shopping.

If you're thinking about preparing for the next new production, Donizetti's La Favorite to be given bors in the critical.

— to be given here in the original French for the first time — don't even bother

Rich tidings

It's not that the record compa-nies haven't been doing their part. The dog days of summer — which typically are as much of a pestilence in CD world as in the





concert world --- have brought an embarrassment of riches, mostly from DG. Two of them are sure to be must-haves for San Francisco opera-lovers. A new John Eliot Gardiner recording of Stravin-sky's The Rake's

sky's The Rake's Progress, which takes to the Opera House boards next June (this is, remember, Mansouri's long-promised "extended season"), is wonderful enough to

you think Notes From All Over that last

June's splendid Stravinsky Festival is still in full swing. And the new live recording of Messiaen's only opera — and undisputed masteropera — and undisputed master-piece — Saint François d'Assise, conducted by the Bay Area's own Kent Nagano, is like the fulfill-ment of a seasons-old promise, and a great deal more.



It's not as though there was an aching need for another recording of *Rake*. There are several fine of *Kake*. There are several fine ones, including at least two (if you search out pirates of the Venice world premiere) conducted by Stravinsky himself. But there's always room for a recording as rich and rewarding as Gardiner's. The transparency of textures among the instruments (the London Symphony Orchestra) is un-Symphony Orchestra) is un-equaled on other recordings, and the balances between orchestra and singers is optimal. This is an opera so delectable you want to hear every note of it, and for once

The cast includes the singer announced as Nick Shadow for announced as NICK Shadow 16the San Francisco revival of the David Hockney production, Bryn Terfel, who alone would be worth the price of the two-CD set. Advance word from the British muvance word from the British musical press had it that Terfel makes too much of the part, which in itself was encouraging. Name the part Terfel hasn't filled to overflowing — and made revelatory in the process. Sure, he's oversung at times, to the detriment of the process of his that the charges of his music, but the chances of his being able to overdo this most insidious (and invidious) of operatsidious (and invidious) of operatic devils are slight — and in any case his singing is, in the event, notably subtle if appropriately creepy. The Britons' golden boy of the moment, tenor Ian Bostridge, the montent, tenor fain bostridge, is as ideal a Tom Rakewell as one could hope, and there isn't a weak link anywhere else in the cast. This is a recording to live with — a word to the wise in the land of

'Saint François' in SF?

But if we're talking revelations, the bow goes to Saint François. Nagano, who is still, against all odds, the music director of the Berkeley Symphony, worked with Messiaen (he was a musical assis-tant on the world premiere of Saint François in Paris in 1983) and has given a series of local preand has given a series of local pre-mieres of important Messiaen works, proposed a concert of major tableaux from Saint François with the Berkeley Symphony at Davies Hall a few seasons back. Its indefinite "post-ponement," for the predictable financial reasons (the opera calls for enormous performing forces) for enormous performing forces and takes huge amounts of prepaand takes huge amounts of preparation), was one of the great blows to Bay Area music life. His new recording, from last year's Salzburg Festival (where money is never a problem) no less, more than compensates that loss.

This is, of course, a piece a visionary director of San Francisco Ouera would mount — if only

Opera would mount — if only because it's about the city's patron saint and namesake. Maybe the saint and namesake. Maybe the next one will. Surely someone has already suggested it, and equally surely the reason it's been passed over is money — an interesting thought given the availability, imagined or otherwise, of \$4 million for as ephemeral and little revivable a piece as Louise. (Don't get me wrong. I like Louise. But getting to it before Saint François is like saying Arabella is more important than Elektra or Die Frau ohne Schatten.)

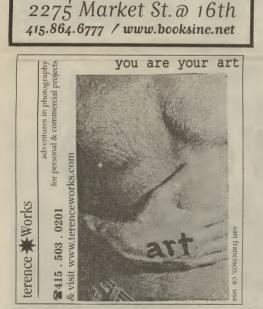
It's not like there was any hope of another recording of Saint François. There are already three, François. There are already three, including an earlier Nagano recording with Dutch forces, and even DG must have considered that anyone who had to have a recording of Messiaen's lengthy masterpiece (which runs five hours in the house and takes four CDs) already did. Yet here it is, a miracle in every sense and safely CDs) already did. Yet here it is, a miracle in every sense, and safely the greatest of the recordings to date. The clarity of the recording all but belies that it's live, and the performances all around are unsurpassed. What's more, the great José van Dam's account of the title role marks his farewell to a role he created.

The performance is as elemental, ritual and ecstatic as it needs to be and follows the emblematic presentation of the saint's life over an astoundingly cathartic arc. Messiaen's lifelong fascination with bird song finds its ideal out-let in St. Francis' sermon to the birds, where all the birdsongs he noted and used elsewhere in his music appear or reappear in a passage he feared would be unconductable — but in Nagano's hands becomes a triumph for composer, conductor and, let's say composer, conductor and, let's say it, God. The long, sustained thren-ody over St. Francis' receiving of the stigmata yields one of the great climaxes in all of opera, and the concluding meditation on "Death and the New Life" is as solemn and profound as anything singular composer

As of this writing, there's already not a copy left on local shelves, which is as heartening a sign about the vitality of contem-porary opera as I've encountered in years. And it's brand new. DG must years. And its brand new. Definition have known something after all.

Pester the folks at your record store

— and the next general director of the San Francisco Opera.





The Bay Area's parallel universe

by Linnea Due

Shy Girl by Elizabeth Stark; Far-rar Straus Giroux, \$22

lizabeth Stark's first novel Shy Girl is a love poem to place where the future is not only possible but wondrous: "every-thing around her — the people's bare shoulders and legs, the soap bubbles blowing out of the Bath Shop across the way and drifting through the bright sky, the rainbow flags that dotted the street, even the dirty sidewalk with its stains and circles of chewed bubble gum — encouraged her to

Alta Corral's world up until then had been less promising. She fell in love with the girl next door
— Shy — and endured years of Shy's dating boys and then coming home to Alta's arms. When Shy is nineteen and Alta seven teen, Shy disappears, though she does let her mother know that she's OK. She says nothing to Alta, who moves next door to Shy's, where she and Shy's mother, Mrs. Mallon, help each other through an intense period of loneliness and grief.

Because depression is a lifelong pattern for Mrs. Mallon, she is able to surface more easily than Alta, long enough to do the right

thing and hook Alta up with older lesbian mentors in San Francisco. So Alta escapes: her own homophobic mother (a strict Catholic), the loss of her father ("When he died, the only space where she was just fine caved right in"), the downtrodden sameness of her neighborhood, the judgments and casual cruelty of nearly every-one around her. Apart from her father, who accepted her utterly, tather, who accepted her ulterly, the people in her past saw her as an ugly girl dressed like a boy. Six years after Shy's disappearance, Alta is not only at home in San Francisco, she's a catch. When she hears that Mrs. Mallon has suf-fered a stroke, she tosses her latest fling on the back of her bike and fling on the back of her bike and motors across the bridge to hometown West Berkeley. It's a good thing, too, because Alta has-n't really escaped — she's just been hiding in successive one-night stands, unable to progress past Shy's betrayal and disappear-

ance.
You know what will happen:
Alta will call Shy, and Shy will
come. The two talk in and around
the push-pull of determining
Mrs. Mallon's secret, a quest that
weighs more on Alta than on Shy.
That the secret is apparent after
the first few pages in isn't terribly
disturbing because the emphasis
is on Shy and Alta's dynamics, on
how we all collude in the playing
out of everyone's personal narra-

and how unhappy they make us. Alta keeps pressing her quest past the boundaries of good taste or good neighbor, past lover, friend, even quasi-family, with a quiet courage and insistence that drags the reluctant Shy along behind. Meanwhile, Alta must confront her own anger at Shy for running away, and as is often the case, righteously injured Alta has to do as much soul-searching as the elu-sive Shy. The real triumph here is the wonderfully realized interplay between Shy and Alta, Alta's steady persistence, and the loving guardianship between Alta and her much older mentors, a relationship too little explored in les-

Strange weather

Yet there is an oddity in Shy Girl; never before have I appreciated how much the peripheral can matter. This is the Bay Area morphed into New Orleans. Everyone is so hot their clothes stick. They sweat, they hop in and out of showers, the white-heat blinds them, heat waves shimmer off the Bay Bridge, Berkeley is as hot as an oven. Poor Shy has forgotten how ungodly hot it can be; soon she is sweltering as well. Couldn't Alta have ridden her bike from SF across the bridge and through the tunnel, where it all would have made sense? The clincher came when it was boiling hot out at SFO. Parallel universe. I couldn't read it any other way. The Bay Area on Mars. Then there is Berkeley. Here

we are, leaving the airport: "The industrial hills of South San Francisco rose up before them; ragged white letters spelling out the City's name stood against the hillsides... Alta took them over the bridge, all silver and sun, and into the sprawling suburbs that considered themselves towns, cities, even small, liberal countries that small, liberal countries that small, liberal countries that founded sister cities in China and voted in city council meetings on foreign policy decisions while their gay staff members remained closeted and almost all the politicians were white."

In spite of growing up in the '70s, when Berkeley was a sea so crowded with dykes that they washed up like flotsam on every street corner, Alta doesn't see her

street corner, Alta doesn't see her first butch until she escapes to San Francisco. I saw my first butch — and femme — in Hink's Department Store on Shattuck Avenue in 1955. Hiding behind clothes racks, I followed the couple up and down the aisles until my mother caught up with me. Yes, I know everybody's experience is different, and personal experience counts so much that I'll even give

Stark her parochial, oppressive Berkeley. Still, like the heat, it may cause you a blink or two. The question is, will this affect your enjoyment of Shy Girl? Nah. Stark is clear where it counts, in her 20-20 vision of relations be-tween friends, parents, and chil-dren. "Most of Alta's friends in the City didn't talk to their parents much, if at all. To their families, there was something unbearable in the bodies she and her friends



held close, the mouths they kissed, the hands they held walk-ing down the street. If there's no pain worse than burying your own child, why had most of the dykes Alta knew been buried alive? She guessed some choices were more painful yet."

Alta's courageous walk through the past, her insistence on bugging Shy when both of them would rather duck the hard walk on bugging Shy when both of them would rather duck the hard stuff, and her gradual understanding of what motivated Shy's mother (and what derailed her own) are wise, haunted, and moving. And Stark's novel-length evocation of Alta's finding a place in a world that has shunned her is truly wonderful. "Maybe other people, straight people in a straight world, get this feeling all their lives. Maybe Shy had had it always, a sense of belonging utterly to the pulse of the moment and the wide-open day, a sense of filling a place in the world that would be empty without you. But that summer afternoon was the first time since her father died that Alta had felt that way." ▼

Bold girl

Author Elizabeth Stark

by Gregg Shapiro

lta and Shy, the main characters of Elizabeth Stark's powerful first novel *Shy Girl* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, \$22), are young women with a roman-tic past. Alta can't forget the love she felt for Shy (a/k/a Sasha) when they were teenagers, and Shy has done almost everything in her power to forget, including leaving town and getting pregnant. Re-united prior to Shy's mother's death, the two women do what they can to make sense of their they can to make sense of their past, only to find that Shy's mother's past makes theirs pale by comparison. Mixing elements from the past (World War II and the Holocaust) and the present (San Francisco queer culture), Stark tells a fascinating 20th-century story.

Stark tells a fascinating 20th-century story.

The author has been bicoastal for a while, going back and forth from Northern California to New York City, but she grew up in Berkeley. When I asked her what she thought of the San Francisco writing scene, Stark said, "I actually think it's very exciting. When I was in New York, people would talk about how the '50s were the height of artistic creativity in America. But in terms of queer writing, there's a in terms of queer writing, there's a renaissance of grassroots queer

renaissance of grassroots queer writing happening.
"Tm reading in New York this summer with two San Francisco poets and writers, Daphne Gottlieb and Thea Hillman. I think we're sending queer writers with a lot of energy out across the country. I also live right across the street from Cleis Press, and that's another wonderful source of stuff coming out of San Francisco. And coming out of San Francisco. And of course, Dorothy Allison lives



Shy Girl author Elizabeth Stark

here and makes her fiery appearances. It's not New York, but I think it's very creative. I think people in California are very creative, everybody's doing something."

Gregg Shapiro: Many first novels are autobiographical — is that true of Shy Girl?

Elizabeth Stark: I knew that, so I deliberately set out to write my [first novel as my] second novel, to write my non-autobiographical novel, thinking that I would go back and write an autobiographical novel, but learning in the process that that's not exactly what fiction-writing is really about, at least for me. This novel really isn't autobiographical, except maybe thematically.

In the novel, you seem to have an intimate knowledge of both Judaism and Catholicism. How were you raised?

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Some Like It Hot

sideline the cops, but the damaged casket is, alas, already gushing whiskey. This is Chicago, the year is 1929, and Prohibition is the law

is 1929, and Prohibition is the law of the land.
When the hearse pulls into Mozarella's Funeral Parlor, a subtle aesthetic spin is put on our perception of events. George Raft, veteran Hollywood hoodlum from the Warner Brothers' backlot, opens the door. The viewer's mind boggles. Raft is performing Raft, playing gangster "Spats" Columbo, who's pretending to be an undertaker, which is a pretty sick cover for a gangster.

an undertaker, which is a pretty sick cover for a gangster.
Pat O'Brien, who made a career trying to reform James Cagney, enters as the cop in charge of the raid. Between them, Raft and O'Brien make the film time travel. Playing it for "real," they introduce the delicious artificant for the section tribe appropriate. they introduce the deficious arti-fice of the acting style appropriate to the era being reenacted. Old-fashioned icons of good and evil, they establish the film's performative universe.

Curtis and Lemmon, as impoverished albeit tuxedo-clad musicians, lose their jobs when the joint's raided. After witnessing Spats' gang perpetrate the Valentine's Day Massacre, they hop the choo-choo to Palm Beach as the newest members of an all-girl band. Drag, for them, is a means



Jack Lemmon in a scene from Some Like It Hot

of survival, allowing them to escape the mob, make some money, and spend three weeks in the Florida sun.

Release from bondage

The two actors have distinctly different takes on female impersonation. Curtis, very pretty to begin with, just pouts his lips and affects an absurd falsetto as "Josephine." Lemon comes alive in a truly inspired, Dionysian per-formance. Using his dress as an excuse to behave like Daffy Duck, he's all over the place, relishing the release from male bondage his being "Daphne" provides

being "Dapnne provides.
Stuck on a sleeper with a gag-gle of blonde instrumentalists, the still-heterosexual Lemmon is told to repeat to himself, "T'm a girl, I'm a girl, I'm a girl." It's a conun-drum some lesbians will appreci-

drum some lesbians will appreciate. Later, when Daphne snags a marriage proposal from a (male) millionaire, Curtis quashes her prenuptial bliss by prescribing the reverse mantra, "I'm a boy."

And then there's Monroe, as the band's singer and ukulele player, Sugar Kane. While it could be argued she's a woman playing a woman, she really has transformed herself into a walking ecstasy. Her platinum hair (which in this black-and-white film reads white), her huge eyes wide open, this black-and-white film reads white), her huge eyes wide open, her zaftig flesh sheathed in a gown whose beads begin at the nipples, her panting singsong, and her sweet and sloppy approach to kissing, make her a monument to the innocence of sex. In a film riddled with high points; she sings.

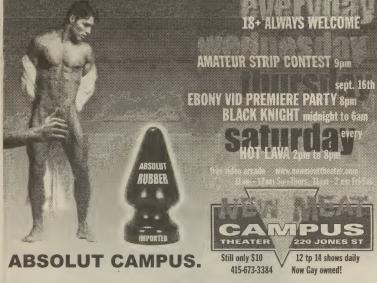
the innocence of sex. In a film riddled with high points, she sings "Runnin' Wild," "I Want to Be Loved by You," and "I'm Through with Love."

In order to win Sugar, Curtis transforms himself into the love ideal she has confided to Josephine. When they arrive in Palm Beach, he steals the band manager's suitcase and starts switching between Josephine and Junior, a four-eyed amateur yachtsman and Shell Oil heir. For some reason, Curtis plays Junior yachtsman and Shell Oil heir. For some reason, Curtis plays Junior as if he were Cary Grant, adding still more layers of performative queerness. Making the most of the double drag opportunities, Wilder shows us the actor in every possible stage of dress, undress, and hermaphroditic halfway point. point.

Meanwhile, Daphne catches

the eye of millionaire Osgood Fielding III (Joe E. Brown). These Fielding III (Joe E. Brown). These two are a sublimely comic couple who dance a very mean tango. The two pairs of lovers proceed to play zany variations on the mating game, necessitating split-second timing from Curtis and gender re-assignment for Lemmon. Finally, assignment for Lemmon. Finally, the gangsters turn up as guests at the same hotel, posing as delegates to the Friends of Italian Opera convention. After a series of ever more desperate costume changes and narrow escapes, during which a few more people die, the ones we care about 100 nt for rean the recare about go on to reap the rewards of their travesties. ▼

The 40th anniversary edition of Some Like It Hot opens Friday, September 10 at the Lumiere







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Disco diva, beefcake fairies, and an ass

Puck at the disco in New York City

by Aimée Ts'ao

he approaching end of the millennium making you feel old? On a recent jaunt to New York City, I found the cure. For those of you who spent far too many nights in a misspent youth in the clubs, as I did back in the '70s, I recommend The Donkey Show at El Flamingo (547 West 21st Street, between 10th and 11th Ave.) Nostalgia can be a powerful tool in healing as you choose to remember the good aspects of the past and dismiss the bad without a second thought. It's also anti-aging therapy, and it must work, as I now feel half the 50 years I just turned.

As improbable as it seems, this show is Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream done, not in modern dress, but as disco, complete with incessant, insistent beat, flashing lights, and writhing bodies. In this updated version, you won't have to strugele with archa-

ies. In this updated version, you won't have to struggle with archa-ic language, most of the words are the lyrics to your favorite disco tunes, and the dancing is literally

Lou Harrison

◄ page **35**

ly poignant, it's basically a series of melodic variations over an or-chestral ground. Violinist Maria Bachmann gives a focused and committed performance which the New Zealand Symphony under James Sedares ably supports. The piece also seems to picture states of mind constant as a landscase and shifting like a landscape, and shifting like a

mood.

Harrison's 1949 Suite for Cello and Harp is a new music classic. This duo, partly based on sketches for a never-made Time/Life film on France's Lascaux cave paintings, evokes physical distance in a landscape through subtle changes in dynamics. Cellist Nina Flyer and harpist Dan Levitan make the most of these contrasts — most noticeable in the first and concluding fifth movements — though the haunting fourth, "Aria," is by far the best.

Harrison's "Three Waltzes" were written in the 1940s and premiered by pianist Michael Boriskin, who plays them here with both affection and accuracy. The naive-sounding "Waltz in A" is an especially charming tribute to one of our greatest French composers, Virgil Thomson, whom Harrison had in mind when he composed the set.

His 2-minute "Western Dance" — Michael Boriskin again — which he wrote in 1947 as a solo for dancer Merce Cunningham, sounds much bigger than its playing time. Percussive and vigorous, it also shows Harrison's gift for Harrison's 1949 Suite for Cello

ing time. Percussive and vigorous, it also shows Harrison's gift for

dance-theatre music.

His 1995 Suite for Cello and
Piano — Flyer and Josephine
Gandolfi — isn't far from the
emotional concision one finds in Fauré's late chamber music terse yet expansive, and written from the heart. Music should tell the truth, and all the pieces here seem to do exactly that. And the sound, thank God, is warm and lively, too.

an arm's length away, as the story of quarreling lovers unfolds right in the middle of the dance floor, on moveable 4-foot cubes, and on the balcony lined with spectators. Here, the term interactive takes on

new meaning. Created and directed by Diane Created and directed by Diane Paulus and Randy Weiner, *The Donkey Show* gives its audience the gamut, from a Puck on rollerblades to a cast of four crossdressing women playing both men's and women's roles, and from bestiality to Titania's four scantily-clad beefcake fairies. Something for every taste, gay, lesbian, bi, and trannie. And they all sing and dance so well that you feal compelled to join in

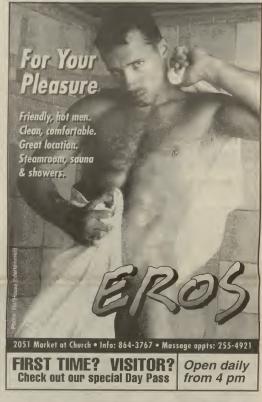
anising and dances owen that you feel compelled to join in.

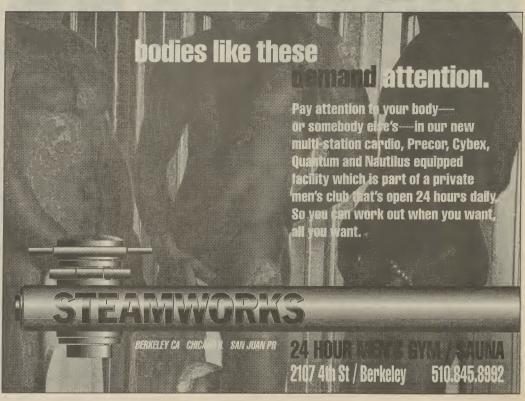
So if you're going to NYC soon, call (212) 971-1016 for information, or check out the website www.thedonkeyshow.com.



Titania and her fairies in The Donkey Show at El Flamingo in NYC







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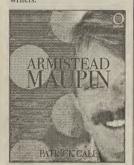


Chronicling gay lives

Engaging British biography series profiles Maupin, Bankhead, lang

by Bradley David

oon to be released in the US are a trio of unusual minibiographies of major gay icons — writer Armistead Maupin, actress Tallulah Bankhead, and singer k.d. lang. The thin but handsome paperback volumes are part of the ongoing Outlines series of gay biographies, which was started two years ago by Absolute Press. The Bath, England-based publisher has profiled subjects including artist David Hockney, jazz legend Bessie Smith, and poet Arthur Rimbaud. Almost all of the books in the series are written by British



Armistead Maupin by Patrick Gale; Absolute Press, \$9.95

Whether you are a hard-core Tales of the City fan or just someone casually interested in the life of one of the gay community's most colorful celebrities, you will be delighted with this new literary portrait of writer Armistead Maupin. The book is uniquely crafted and very well-written by a longtime friend of Maupin's, Patrick Gale, who is one of

Britain's leading gay novelists (The Cat Sanctuary, The Facts of Life, and Tree Surgery for Beginners).
Written with its subject's cooperation, most of the book's ma-

Written with its subject's cooperation, most of the book's material is taken from ten days'
worth of conversations with
Maupin, which Gale tape-recorded on a recent visit to San Francisco. Gale quotes Maupin at
length on everything from his
ultra-conservative upbringing in
North Carolina and service in
Vietnam, through the beginnings
of his quasi-fictional newspaper
columns about life in San Francisco (which evolved into the sixvolume Tales of the City novel series), to his metamorphosis into a
pot-smoking bon vivant and cultural father figure for recent generations of gay men.

cisco (which evolved into the sixvolume Tales of the City novel series), to his metamorphosis into a pot-smoking bon vivant and cultural father figure for recent generations of gay men.

The book's conversational style is perfect for its deliciously gossipy content. Maupin, who had a long friendship with Rock Hudson and spoke publicly about Hudson and spoke publicly about Hudson shomosexuality after the actor's AIDS diagnosis was reported, tells of a sexual encounter soon after they met during which Hudson produced a tiny monogrammed leather case in which he kept his bottle of poppers. Readers also get the skinny on Maupin's disgust with Lily Tomlin, who spoke Maupin's narration of The Celluloid Closet but backed out of her commitment to use the documentary as a vehicle for her own long-waited coming out

Maupin's narration of The Celluloid Closet but backed out of her commitment to use the documentary as a vehicle for her own longawaited coming out.

Also addressed is Maupin's recent split with his longtime lover, AIDS activist Terry Anderson (the two are still very close). The book ends with an excerpt from a 1985 editorial in The Advocate called "Armistead Maupin's Design For Living." This "blueprint for a more fulfilling life" urges gay people to stop begging for acceptance and refuse to take part in the lie of being "discreet."

k.d. lang by Rose Collis; Absolute Press, \$9.95

The big-boned gal from Southern Alberta was a major lesbian icon years before her anticlimactic "official" coming-out in a

1992 Advocate cover story. Since then, k.d. lang has become almost universally regarded as one of the finest female vocalists in enterThis engaging biography traces lang's fascinating life, from her upbringing in the sticks of Canada to her superstardom as a singer and poster child for honesty and self-acceptance. Author Rose Collis tells the story of how lang's star ascended to its peak in the mid-'90s with the success of her album *Ingenue* and high-profile publicity such as the famous Vanity Fair cover with the androgynous lang in a barber's chair getting shaved by supermodel Cindy Crawford.

Everything from lang's public

Everything from lang's public stances on animal rights and the fight against AIDS to her life with girlfriend Leisha Hailey (of *The Murmurs*) is chronicled in this refreshing look at a true original.



Tallulah Bankhead by Bryony Lavery; Absolute Press, \$9.95

Before grand diva Tallulah Bankhead died in 1968, she penned her memoirs, finishing the book with, "I've lived to the hilt. I've soared in the clouds and touched bottom. Much as I like to idle, I know I must carry on or perish. I have a tiger by the tail." Readers are advised to hang onto that tail as author Bryony

Readers are advised to hang onto that tail as author Bryony Lavery's hilarious and affectionate biography careens through Bankhead's extraordinary life as a party-going, dirty-talking, hardloving, glamorous and promiscuous bisexual actress, who first became famous in the 1920s. Bankhead was notorious for her many female lovers, and once remarked: "My family warned me about men; but they never thought to mention women!" Addicted to alcohol, drues and

thought to mention women!"
Addicted to alcohol, drugs and sex, Bankhead serenaded the press and public with an ongoing commentary without a care for whom she might shock or offend. Of drugs, she said, "Cocaine isn't habit-forming: I should know, I've been taking it for years!' And as for publicity, she proclaimed, "It doesn't matter what they say, darling, as long as they talk!' An incorrigible hedonist to the end, her final words, spoken between gulps of oxygen as she died of emphysema, were, "Codeine! Bourbon!"

This compact biography is vastly entertaining — and a must-read for any self-respecting queer. ▼





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Paris unmasked

'Masquerade' a perfect whodunit

by Tavo Amador

aris in the twenties. The Jazz Age. The Lost Generation.

Drugs, sex, and the
Charleston. Expatriate American Charleston. Expatriate American writers living cheaply in the City of Light. Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas. Ernest Hemingway, Kay Boyle, and Robert McAlmon being geniuses together. Ireland's James Joyce struggling with Ulysses. A Catalan artist named Pablo Picaso creating at thir his Pablo Picasso creating a stir in his adopted country. Erik Satie coming into prominence. What an era, what a place. A perfect setting for a classic murder mystery, and Masquerade by Walter Satterth-wait (St. Martin's Dead Letter Press, paperback, \$5.99) is just that: a perfect whodunit, worthy of the ambiance, the location, and

When the young, rich, bisexu-al American expatriate publisher Richard Forsythe and his bisexual German mistress are found shot in their Paris hotel rooms, the ofin their Paris hotel rooms, the of-ficial story is that they had a sui-cide pact and that Richard killed her before turning the gun on himself. This explanation is con-sistent with Forsythe's own phi-losophy, is accepted by his pretty, cocaine-snorting widow, and ap-pears supported by the facts at the scene of the crime. The hotel room was locked from the inside, and there was no other way out.

and there was no other way out.
But Richard's mother doesn't
believe the official story, so she has
hired the world-famous Pinkerton Agency to investigate. The agency has sent two detectives,

working independently, to learn all they can about what happened. The first, Jane Turner, is working undercover as a nanny to Forsythe's three nephews in the household of his fatuous brother and nouveau riche wife. The second, Phil Beaumont, is working in a more direct and open manner, assisted by local Pinkerton operative Henri Ledoq, a dapper, Hercule Poirot-like food snob and ladies man who proves surprisladies man who proves surpris-ingly adept at dealing with physi-cal confrontations. They make a fascinating pair.

Jane and Phil take turns nar-

witty letters to her finishing school friend Evy, he in a typical first person narrative. Although the dual narrators are an unusual device which could frustrate the reader. Satterthwait pulls it off superbly. Each narrative voice is unique, and each one advances the story while adding a bit to the puzzle.

Agatha agonistes

Beaumont suspects proper Sybil Norton, a British mystery writer cleverly modeled on Agatha Christie, of being the killer. Not only did she report the murder to the police, but she admitted seeing Richard, with whom she once had a tryst, on the day of his death. She wanted to reclaim some erotic powanted to rectain some erote po-etry she had written and feared he would publish. But the cool Nor-ton gives nothing away, and Philip, suspicions still aroused, is unable

to prove anything, especially since he can't figure out how she would have escaped the locked room. (Where's Jane Marple or the real Hercule Poirot when you need

them?)
In the course of the investigation, Ledoq introduces Philip to Ernest Hemingway, who comes across as the pseudo-macho, ho-mophobic blowhard he probably was in real life. Satterthwait draws a skillful portrait of the artist as a bigoted and insecure young man in a couple of memorable scenes.

Even more fascinating are the lesbian characters, imaginary and lesbian characters, imaginary and real, that we meet. Among them is beautiful, rich, titian-haired Virginia Randall, an American art collector who comes close to seducing Jane. In a letter to Evy about their meeting, Jane recalls her own finishing school experiments with other girls, but, alas, retains her romantic focus on retains her romantic focus on Phil. Jane is also courted by the chic and lovely Eugenie, whose brother, the Count de Saintes, a

notorious anti-Semitic Fascist, is giving the masked ball at which the mystery reaches its climax and

the mystery reaches its climax and killer and motives are revealed.
But it's the unglamorous lesbian Gertrude Stein who proves most useful to Phil and Jane. Stein doesn't appear in the story until late, but she is worth waiting for and memorably portrayed. Satterthwait captures her circular speech patterns and matter-offact acceptance of her own literary genius beautifully. ("There was William Shakespeare and there is me.") Stein's kindness and intelligence are key elements in

was William Shakespeare and there is me.") Stein's kindness and intelligence are key elements in setting up the events that unmask the killer at the masquerade. (She attends the ball disguised as Ford Maddox Ford, and her walking stick proves quite useful.) Alice B. Toklas makes a few brief appearances, hovering in the background, but making sure things work smoothly for Gertrude.

I doubt many readers will guess or deduce the killer, but almost all will enjoy seeing how the loose ends are tied up and in discovering the motives for the murder. (Hint: shame over a homosexual encounter is at the root of the problem.) Rarely does a mystery combine literary wit with an ingenious plot in so vivid an historical setting, but Masquerade does, so read it before someone tells you too much about it, or some smart filmmaker turns it into an all-star movie. (Stephen Frears, are you listening?)

Gay gumshoes

by Marv. Shaw

Capital Queers by Fred Hunter; St. Martin's Press, \$23.95

Are You Nuts? by Mark Richard Zubro; St. Martin's Press, \$12.95

t was inevitable that gay mystery writers would find their heroes in gay detectives, and here are two of the best: Alex Reynolds in Frank Hunter's Capital Queers, and Tom Mason in Mark Richard Zubro's Are You Nuts? The former is a kind of part-time CIA man, and the latter is a high school English teacher. Both are well-mated, to Peter Livesay and Scott Carpenter reboth are well-mated, to Peter Livesay and Scott Carpenter re-spectively. Carpenter is an "out" baseball player in the major leagues, celebrity which has brought him on national TV with Mason, a phenomenon that has affected both their lives.

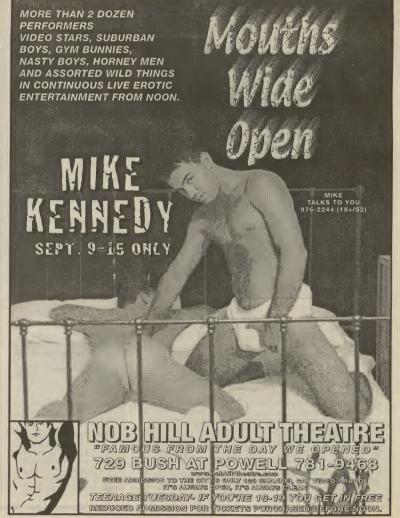
Even more momentous in the



lives of Reynolds and Livesay are the murders of close friends Ryan and Masey, crimes which involve a Thai Buddha — and more par-ticularly a violet-shaded diamond that had formerly been in the idol's navel. It seems that the stone has greater symbolic than actual

page 53 ▶







Calendare by Mark Mardon

Black Rock City vs. San Francisco

While San Francisco may be one of the gayest cities on Earth, without cuestion Plant without question Black Rock City in Nevada — the sprawling tent and RV settlement erected in the desert by Burning Man partici-pants each year — is far-and-away Earth's queerest city.

The distinction be

tween gay and queer citizens became abun-dantly clear at this year's BM festival,

dantly clear at this year's BM festival, which concluded last Saturday with the largest burning of artwork since that sourpuss cleric Savanorola threw paintings and books on flaming pyres way back in Michelangelo's time.

Gays walk hand-in-hand and kiss openly in San Francisco; in Black Rock City, inhabited by well over 20,000 people, queers do the full nasty in the middle of busy streets, even as police patrol cars cruise slowly by and fellow bare-bottomed pedestrians parade past with family jewels aflame in the intense sunlight.

In San Francisco, gays buy designer clothes on credit from exclusive shops; in Black Rock City, queers barter at ramshackle "theme camps" for pieces of glittery cloth, trading condoms, lube, whippets or even bodywork for ragged adornments.

In the civilization of San Francisco, gay men bleach their hair, or maybe even color it. In the frontier outpost of Black Rock City, queers paint their entire bodies, or maybe even dip themselves in mud that dries instantly, imparting that retro Cro-Magnon Man look.

In tranny San Francisco, the girls are

Queers make the trek to Black Rock City

dip themselves in mud that dries instantly, imparting that retro Cro-Magnon Man look.

In tranny San Francisco, the girls are fierce if their nipples show and their metallic eyelashes can be seen shining from two blocks away. In Black Rock City, where nipples showing is de rigueur, drag is fierce when it includes having someone pierce your nostrils in four places, insert four-inch-long needles vertically through the holes, and expect you to survive in the desert with the needles getting in the way of your mouth, making it nearly impossible to suck on a water bottle or anything else.

The point of all this is to alert gay readers who secretly yearn to be less up-tight and more openly queer that you have exactly a year to prepare for Burning Man 2000. This is not much time, considering how much effort most BM participants put into creating fabulous theme camps that call for much planning, a flair for creativ-

ering now much enort most bot participants put this creating use ulous theme camps that call for much planning, a flair for creativity, heavy expenditures of time and money, and a desire to indulge in wild fantasies openly and without shame. In Black Rock City, if you work it right, not only will your fellow citizens respect your right to be queer as a five-legged deer, they'll reward you by burning your art. Could there be any higher compliment? ing your art. Could there be any higher compliment?

To begin making plans for Burning Man 2000, check out the official website at www.burningman.com.



848 Divisadero

848 Divisadero
"Obliviotopia," by Alan Reade
("Bear-A-Go-Go!"). A one-man guide
to transportation and the American
landscape, taking us on a journey
through suburban sprawl, city grid-lock, and even outer space. Part of
Reade's "American Language" series.
\$10. Also on 9/11 & 17-18. 848 Divisadero (btwn. Fulton & McAllister). Info: 922-2385 (or surf www.848.com).

Jusie's
Two shows: (1) "The Duboce-A-Thon"
continues. Tonight's episode (3rd of
4): "Smutopolis." \$10. 8pm. (2)
"Hot Pants Homo" by F. Allen
Sawyer. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret
& Julice Joint, 3583 16th St. 8617933.

ATA Gallery

ATA Gallery
Other Cinema presents "Adam Goldman on the New Porn." An insider's
report on the new modes of erotic interactivity made possible by the Internet, DVD, CD-Rom, linear video,
16mm film, and more. Also: William
Jones' "The Fall of Communism As
Seen in Gay Pornography," Dewey
Schott and Justin Chiris "Downloads," Naomi Uman's "removed,"
and Pam Anderson's home-sex video.
\$5. 8pm. 992 Valencia St. 824-3890. \$5 8nm 992 Valencia St 824-3890

Clinicá Esperanza

10th Anniversary Gala Gelebration with silent art auction and entertainment, honoring this healthcare provider's dedication to early HIV intervention. Free. 6-9pm. 240 Shotwell St. (at 16th). 431-3212.

New College Cultural Center New College Cultural Center Small Press Traffic presents an evening with novelest and playwright Mike Amnamson (a major voice in San Francisco's "New Narrative" school of writing of the 1980s) and poet Elizabeth Robinson (whose latest work epitemizes the new American poetry, with its lyric abstraction, spiritual depth, finesse of experiment, and elegant individualism). \$5. 7:30pm. 766 Valencia St.

Mission Cultural Center

"Bernarda," directed by Juan Roca, a version of the classical play "The House of Bernarda Alba" from House of Bernarda Alba" from poet/writer Federico Garcia Lorca. An all-male cast recreates the period in Spanish society when women's social development and free-will were limited. The men play female characters. In Spanish. Sponsored by LLEG6 California \$10. 8pm. Also on 9/11 at 5pm (in English) and 9/12 at 5pm (in Spanish) and 8pm (in English). 2868 Mission St. 821-1155.

Lorraine Hansberry Theatre SF Fringe Festival: "Killing My Lob-ster's Comedy Show!" All new mater-ial. Sketch comedy centered on air-plane travel, foreign policy, and toys for the pool. With DJ spinning live on stage during performance. \$8.

8:30pm. Also on 9/12 at 2:30pm. 620 Sutter St. (at Mason). 267-0642.

Mill & Short Gallery

Opening reception: Nina Barlow's "[mask]ed [sculpt]ures," life-size fig-ures in paper, part of the de[sign]ed group exhibit. Free. 6-9pm. 555 Sut-ter St., 4th Floor. 398-3630.

American Indian **Contemporary Arts**

Contemporary Arts
Opening reception & artist presentation: "Chanting with Images: Paintings & Prints by Michael Kabotie." A
Hopi painter, Kabotie creates Intricate works influenced by historic kiva
murals, abstracting forms found in
Hopi culture. Free. 5-6:30pm receptions 6-30pm receptions. 23 Grant 23 Grant tion; 6:30pm presentation. 23 Grant Ave., Sixth Floor. 989-7003.

New Langton Arts

New Langton Arts
Bay Area Award Show, presenting
screenings of works by video awardees
Matt Biederman, Cliff Hengst, Ron
Jones, Anne McGuire, Paul Rowley &
David Phillips, and Minsu Yang, Also:
music awardee Bevin Kelley's "Blectum from Blechdom" — an aural universe of sounds. \$8. (\$6 students, seniors, Langton members). 8pm. 1246
Folsom St. (btwn. 8th & 9th). 6265416.

Belcher Studios Gallery

Opening reception: Recent works by Marco Vangelisti, who paintings are influenced by Matisse, Cubism and The Fauves — highly abstracted, intensely energetic, with strong colors. Free. 6-9pm. 69 Belcher St. (btwn. 14th & Duboce).

New Conservatory Theatre Center

Opening night: "Preaching to the Perverted" by Holly Hughes. \$20 (\$12 Wed.; \$14 Thu.; \$20 Fri. & Sat.). 8pm. Thru 9/25. 25 Van Ness Ave., Lower Lobby (at Market St.). 861-8972.

Blair Jackson reads from Garcia: An American Life, the first-ever biogra-phy of Grateful Dead guitarist Jerry Garcia. Introduction by Steve Silber-man, author of Skeleton Key: A Dic-tionary for Deadheads. Free. 7pm. 1644 Haight St. 863-8688.

Sat 11

Opening reception: "Hope, Health and Healing," an artists' exhibition in gratitude for the HIV health services provided by Clinicá Esperanza. Sixprovided by Clinica Esperanza. Six-teen visual artists, all clients of Clin-icá Esperanza, will show more than 50 works. Curated by Dan Arcos. Free. 5-9pm. 2811 Mission St. (at 24th). Info: 552-1013.

Lorraine Hansberry Theatre SF Fringe Festival: "Hanging On Your Every Word," a play by Suze following a young woman's search for meaning after the gruesome discovery of her lover's suicide. \$8. 5:30pm (also 9/12 at 4pm). 620 Sutter St. Info: 673-3847.

New PFA Theater, Berkeley New PFA Theater, Berkeley Pacific Film Archive inaugurates the new PFA Theater with free weekend screenings. Tonight: Francis Coppola's The Conversation, 7pm, and Yasuzo Masumura's The Lady Pickpocket, 9:15pm. Free. First come first served. Tix available beginning 6pm. 2575 Bancroft Way, southern edge of UC campus. 642-1412.

Studio 210

The new dance troupe Etherealize presents "StopClowns," an evening of works by choreographer Leyya Tawil. She attempts to develop new perspectives on movement by pushing the expense of movement by pushing the expense of movement by pushing the expense of movements. tives on movement by pushing the ex-tremes of momentum, improvisation, and dynamic awareness. With original score by Christopher keyes, \$8 (or do-nation). 8pm. 3435 Cesar Chavez (at Valencia). Info: (510) 918-2057.

ODC Theater

ODC Theater
Benefit evening for ODC, previewing up-coming performances by Robert Moses' Kin, AXIS Dance Company, Lines Contemporary Ballet, Erling Wold, Rhodessa Jones, and Idris Ackamoor. Reception and swing dance party following. \$25-\$50. 8pm. 3153 17th St. (at Shotwell). 863-9834.

17th St. (at Shotwell). 863-9834.

La Peña
Concert: "Chile 26 Años Despues." On the 26th anniversary of the coup in Chile, La Peña takes an artistic look, through songs, poetry and video, at the criminal deeds of General Augusto Pinochet. With acclaimed Chilean musicians Lichi Fuentes, Rafael Manriquez, and Quinque Cruz, plus the La Peña Chorus. Special Chilean menu in the cafe. \$8. 8pm. 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. (510) 849-2568.

New Conservatory

New Conservatory
Theatre Center
Preview: "Steel Kiss" by Robin Fulford, directed by Ed Decker. Fagbashing, roughhousing, and the bravado of teenage boys fuel this riveting
Canadian play, \$13. 8pm. Runs 9/1810/30. 25 Van Ness Ave., Lower
Lobby (at Market St.). 861-8972.

Exit Stage Left

Exit Stage Left
"The Cry of Aradia: Ritual Theatre
for the Modern Woman," written and
performed by Melusina Del Mar. Multimedia ritual theatre about women
reclaiming their spiritual heritage and
inner power in a mass-media world.
Live ritual drumming, comedy, movement, story telling and music. Part of
the SF Fringe Festival. 8:30pm. Also
on 9/13, 14, & 19 (times vary). 156
Eddy St. Res.: (510) 496-3460.

Two shows: (1) "The Duboce-A-Thon" continues. Tonight's episode (4th of 4): "Holes of Glory." \$10. 8pm. (2) "Hot Pants Homo" by F. Allen Sawyer. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret & Juice Joint, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

SFMOMA

SFMOMA
"The Last Night." Join Bill Viola for a last chance to view his video-art exhibition, with an all-night program of his single-channel videos in the Phyllis Wattis Theater and conversation with the artist in The Schwab Room. \$9 (\$6 seniors; \$5 students). 8pm-6am. San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, 151 Third St. 357-4000.

Sun 12

PFLAG/St. Francis Church

PFLAG/St, Francis Church
Members of COLAGE (Children of
Lesbians and Gays Everywhere), discuss plans to expand the organization.
While headquartered in San Francisco, COLAGE has a national and international scope. 3-4pm. Preceded by
the PFLAG support group (2-3pm).
All welcome. 152 Church St. (at Market), 921-8850.

A Different Light

Merle Yost reads from and discusses When Love Lasts Forever, a look at 14 gay male couples who have made the commitment to stay together. A few of these couples will be on-hand at the event. Especially relevant in the wake of California's Knight Initiative (on the ballot in March) which seeks to ban gay marriage. Free. 7:30pm. A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro St. 431-0891.

The Edge Bar

"Mr. and Ms. San Francisco Cheeks and Chaps Contest," a benefit for the UCSF AIDS Health Project. Enter-tainment, raffle, prizes. Hosted by Ernestine and Mama (Sandy Rien-heart). 6-9pm. 4149 18th St. 863-4027.

New PFA Theater, Berkeley Pacific Film Archive inaugurates the new PFA Theater with free weekend screenings. Tonight: West Coast Pre-miere Revival of the French film Fa-balas by Jacques Becker, 7pm, and Victims of Sin by Mexican director Emilio Fernandez. Tix available be-ginning 6pm. 2575 Bancroft Way, southern edge of UC campus. 642-

The Boom Boom Room

Concert: Cajun jazzy blues singer Beebe Price and the Shades of Blue. \$3. 9pm. 1601 Fillmore St. 673-8000.





Mon 13

Damaged music by the damaged duo Thomas Dimuzio (samplers, loops, processors) and Chris Cutler (drums, percussion, low-grade electronics). "Plainly irresponsible," said the LA Times. \$6-\$10 sliding. 8pm. 252. Ninth St. (btwn. Folsom & Howard). 289-2000.

SkyDeck

Reading by and discussion with Baron Wolman, Rolling Stone magazine's first photographer, concerning his work and his book Classic Rock & Other Rollers. \$7 (\$4 seniors/students). Noon-1pm. SkyDeck (indoor/outdoor observation deck), One Embarcadero Center, 41st Floor, corner of Sacramento & Battery.

"Open Mic Gay Comedy" continues with comic host Bob McIntyre. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret & Juice Joint, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Tue 14

Intersection for the Arts

Intersection for the Arts
"September Critical III," a series of
debates about the arts. Tonight:
"What For? Alternative Galleries,"
exploring the governing principles and
visions driving specific galleries. Featuring Joanne Chan (GenArt SF),
Julie Deamer (four walls), Glen
Helfand (critic), Trisha Lagaso
(Southern Exposure), Eiming Jung
(111 Minna Street) and Kelly Linder
(The Living Room/Brian Gross
Gallery). Moderated by Nola Mariano. Donation suggested. 8pm. 446
Valencia St. 626-2787. ano. Donation suggeste Valencia St. 626-2787

Metropolitan Community Church

Community Church
Two events. For men: "Sex and Intimacy: Getting What We (Really?)
Want," Part II. Led by Robert Shively. For women: "Femme/nism," about
what it means to be femme. Featuring
Kendra Lubalin and Julia Query (cofounders of the Femme Conference),
facilitated by Shar Rednour. Free (donations welcome). 7pm. 150 Eureka
St. 865-2743.

The Stud

Trannyshack presents a "Trunkful of Trannies" to benefit the Gay and Les-bian Historical Society. Hostess Hekbian Historical Society. Hostess Hek-lina is Joined by drag artiste Timmy Spense in presenting a theatrical pa-rade of cutting-edge gender stylists. With DJ Flynn DeMarco. Partial doo proceeds will support the Center for the History of Sexual Diversity of GLHS. \$5 cover. 10pm-2am (show starts at midnight). 21+. 399 Ninth

St. (at Harrison)

Noh Space

Non Space
Theatre of Yugen presents Squad's
Extreme Leisure, a performance that
pokes fun at the frenetic pace with
which we pursue relaxation, vacation,
and various states of leisure. \$10.
8pm. 2840 Mariposa St. at Project
Artaud (btwn. Florida & Alabama).
621-7978.

Wed 15

Metropolitan Community Church

"Men Talking About Crystal," part of the men's September discussion series at MCC. Free (donations welcome). 8:15pm. 150 Eureka St. 863-4434.

ATA Gallery

ATA Gallery
Queer Odd Wednesday's presents
"Body Image," videos about queer
body issues and image. Featuring
Karen Everett's "Framing Lesbian
Fashion," plus "Rapture" (crossing
the boundary between physical pain
and spiritual ecstasy), "Tom's Flesh"
(the world of plastic surgery, eating
disorders, and other issues), and
"Bodies in Trouble" (the lesbian body
under siege). Open screen follows. \$5.
992 Valencia (at 21st). Info: 8243890.

Theater Artaud

Opening night: Two shows, two hip-hop artists: "The Gathering" by Will Power and "Surface Transit" by Sarah Jones. Expressions of contem-porary life through spoken word and character-based performance. This is the hip-hop movement at its best. (Subsequent nights alternate the two shows thru 9/25.) \$15. 8pm. 450 Florida St. 621-7797.

Intersection for the Arts

Opening reception: "The War Room," an exhibition designed to broaden our understanding of war through military art, protest posters, military aerial leaflets and flyers, and broadcast media coverage. Free. 6-9pm. 446 Valencia St. (btwn. 15th & 16th streets). 626-2787.

Gay and Lesbian Human

Rights Commission
Free legal clinic for LGBT is grants, sponsored by the SF Bay Area Lesbian & Gay Immigration & Asylum Rights Task Force. 6-9pm. 1360 Mis-sion St., 2nd Floor (btwn. 9th & 10th). Call 392-6257 to make an appointment for a free private consultation with an immigration attorney (appointments preferred but not nec-

Venue 9

Multimedia Artists Collective presents "One Night Satisfied With Music" by

The Sounds of the Barbary Coast, plus Music by the Church Steps, video/per-formance, paintings, and photogra-phy/slides. \$6-\$10 sliding. 8pm. 289-2000.

Thu 16

SF Camerawork

SF Camerawork
Opening reception: "A Tale of Three
Cities," an exhibition of cityscape
photographs by Stephanie Couturier
(Paris), Robbert Flick (Los Angeles)
and Henrik Kam (San Francisco).
Their images speak of the dilapidation, decay, renovation and rebirth of
the urban environment. Free. 5:308pm. 115 Natoma St. 764-1001.

Peter Alexander Gallery

Opening reception: Paul Mahder photography exhibit, featuring layered images of the human nude with natur al textures, "used to portray both the sacred and the sensual." Free. 1-9pm Peter Alexander Art and Furniture Gallery, 1201 8th St. (at 16th & Arkansas). Info: 642-4047.

SFMOMA

Opening: "Jasper Johns: New Paintings and Works on Paper." Johns (b. 1930) is credited as a key figure in shifting American art away from Abstract Expressionism and toward the era of Pop. Curated by Gary Garrels. \$9 (\$6 seniors; \$5 students). 11am-9pm (other days till 6pm). San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, 151
Third St. 357-4000.

Herbst Theatre

City Arts & Lectures present an evening with renowned opera singer Frederica Von Stade and celebrity/fashion photographer Marcia Lieberman (Vogue, Esquire, Mirabella) in conversation with Sarah Billinghurst of the Metropolitan Billinghurst of the Metropolitan Opera. Featuring slides from When Divas Confess, Lieberman's images from back stage at the world's great opera houses. \$17. 8pm. 401 Van Ness Ave. (at McAllister). Tix: 392-

Plat's
Opening night: "The World Goes
'Round," the Kander and Ebb musical
revue, starring Ruth Hastings, with
Molly Bell, Denise Cassidy, Alec Duffy
and Jerry Skagerberg. Thru 10/9.
Piat's Restaurant & Cabaret, 1686
Market St. Info: 864-3700.

Josie's

JOSIE'S Held over: "Hot Pants Homo," by F. Allen Sawyer, featuring Jason Scott Buro, Deena Davenport, Flynn De-Marco, Trauma Flintstone, and Otis Morgan. \$10. 8pm. (8pm & 10pm Fri. & Sat.). Thru 9/25. Josie's Cabaret & Juice Joint. 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

New Conservatory Theatre Center

Preview: "Amphibians" by Billy Roche, directed by Cliff Mayotte. An Irish fisherman decides to revive a once common rite-of-passage ritual for his teenage son. Co-presented by D.E.O. Ireland Theatre Company. \$12. 8pm. Runs 9/17-10/24. 25 Van Ness Ave., Lower Lobby (at Market St.). 861-8972.

Theatre Rhinoceros

Preview: "Shopping and F***ing," by Mark Ravenhill, directed by Michael Donald Edwards. A show about addic-tion, dependency, and need, beginning with Mark, an upper-class ex-busi-nessman in England who is in withdrawal from cocaine, but his drug/sex buddies seem stuck to him like leech-es. \$12 previews. 8pm. Also on 9/17. Runs 9/18-10/16. 2926 16th St. (at S. Van Ness). 861-5079.

WANNA SUBMIT?

Send your calendar event listings to:

Mark Mardon Out & About

Bay Area Reporter 395 Ninth Street San Francisco, CA 94103

Deadline is the Friday before issue date.

This Week's Dinner Specials

Grilled 12-oz New York Steak

Fresh Atlantic Salmon grilled or oached with white-lemon-dill sauce, vegetab nd mashed potatoes or chef's rice\$12.75

Chicken Stroganoff served over fettucing with mushrooms, marsala & sour cream ...\$9.75

Grilled Pork Chops stuffed with apple-raising dressing, mashed potatoes & gravy\$11.75 Prime Rib au jus with baked potato and

Fried Calamari with dipping sauce...\$5.75

Patio Cafe

531 Castro Street, between 18th/19th Breakfast/Lunch served from 9:00 AM Dinner Served from 5:00 PM

what ideas are playing in your head?



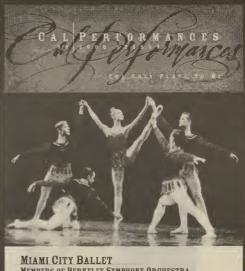
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MEMBERS OF BERKELEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

THU-SAT, SEPT 23-25, 8 PM; ZELLERBACH HALL \$20, \$30, \$42

Founded by former New York City Ballet star Edward Villella, this exciting young troupe is one of the fastest rising ballet companies in the United States. In its first Bay Area appearance since 1991, the company opens Cal Performances' dance season with the West Coast premiere of Balanchine's evening-length *Jewels*, set to music by Fauré, Stravinsky, and Tchaikovsky.

SIGHTLINES: PRE-PERFORMANCE TALK WITH EDWARD VILLELLA, SEPT 24, 7 PM

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OU HAVE PEOPLE SA TAKE YOUR

Combination therapy brings with it a series of petty indignities. Sleep is missed. Plans are changed. You can't even eat breakfast, lunch and dinner when you want to.

Can something be done to help make dosing schedules convenient?

We believe it can. We are Vertex Pharmaceuticals and we have created a new protease inhibitor.

It was developed by a team of Vertex researchers - medicinal chemists, molecular biologists, biophysicists - all working closely together. We used a method called "structure-based drug design" and computer modeling software to find potential drug molecules. Then we used a three-dimensional picture of the HIV protease structure and computer filtering tools to design a drug that would attach to HIV protease.

Our new protease inhibitor is called Agenerase™ (amprenavir). It can be taken with or without food, so you can eat when you want to eat. (Just be sure to avoid taking Agenerase with a high-fat meal.) Take it twice a day, in the morning and evening. It stays in your system all day.

Agenerase in combination with other antiviral medicines is for the treatment of HIV infection. This use is based on 24-week studies of its effects on viral load and CD4 cell counts.

Of course, Agenerase is not perfect.

Agenerase is not a cure and has not been shown to prevent transmission of HIV infection. At this time, it is not known whether taking Agenerase will slow the progress of HIV disease or help you live longer.

We know side effects are a major concern for people taking protease inhibitors. In clinical trials Agenerase was generally well tolerated. But there were side effects associated with the drug. The most common side effects with Agenerase are nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, rash, and a tingling sensation around the mouth. If these side effects occur, they are usually mild to moderate and tend to stop after a few weeks of treatment.

You should know that high blood sugar, shifts in location of body fat, and a certain type of anemia have been seen in patients taking protease inhibitors, including Agenerase. Serious and/or life-threatening drug interactions and skin reactions have also been seen in patients taking Agenerase.

See important information for patients on next page.

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PATIENT INFORMATION



AGENERASE™ (amprenavir) Capsules AGENERASE™ (amprenavir) Oral Solution

Please read this information before you start taking AGENERASE (pronounced ah-GEN-er-ase), and re-read it each time you receive your prescription, just in case something has changed. Remember that this information does not take the place of careful discussions with your doctor when you start this medication and at checkups. You should not change or stop your anti-HIV treatment without first talking with your doctor. You should tell your doctor about any drug you are taking or planning to take because taking AGENERASE with some medications can result in serious or life-threatening problems

AGENERASE is a medication used to treat HIV infection. HIV is the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome). AGENERASE is taken by mouth as a soft gel capsule or oral solution. It belongs to a class of anti-HIV medicines called protease inhibitors.

How does AGENERASE work?

AGENERASE is used only in combination with other anti-HIV medicines. When used in combination therapy, AGENERASE may help lower the amount of HIV found in your blood, raise CD4 (T) cell count, and keep your immune system as healthy as possible so that it can help fight infection. However, AGENERASE does not have these effects in all patients.

What are the side effects of AGENERASE?
Common side effects of AGENERASE are nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, rash, and a tingling sensation around the mouth. Severe or life-threatening rash has been reported.

Contact your doctor if you have nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or rash. Your doctor may be able to help you manage these symptoms. Your doctor will advise you whether your symptoms can be managed on therapy or whether AGENERASE should be stopped.

This list of side effects is not complete. Your doctor or pharmacist can discuss with you a more complete list of possible side effects with AGENERASE. Talk to your doctor promptly about any side effects you have.

How should I take AGENERASE?

Take AGENERASE exactly as your doctor prescribes it. The usual dosage for adults and adolescents (at least 13 years of age) is eight 150-mg soft gel capsules twice a day (morning and night), in combination with other anti-HIV medicines.

AGENERASE can be taken with or without food. However, you should not take AGENERASE with a high-fat meal because this could reduce the effectiveness of AGENERASE.

What should I do if I miss a dose of AGENERASE?

To help make sure that your anti-HIV therapy is as effective as possible, be very careful to take all of your medication exactly as your doctor prescribed it and do not skip any doses.

If you miss a dose of AGENERASE by more than 4 hours, wait and take the next dose at the regularly scheduled time. However, if you miss a dose by fewer than 4 hours, take your missed dose immediately. Then take your next dose at the regularly scheduled time. Do not take more or less than your prescribed dose of AGENERASE at any one time

When your supply of AGENERASE or other anti-HIV drugs starts to run low, arrange to get more from your doctor or pharmacy. It is very important that you take anti-HIV drugs as prescribed by your doctor because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if one or more of the drugs is stopped, even for a short time.

Can AGENERASE be taken with other medications?

Protease inhibitors, including AGENERASE, may interact with other drugs, including those you take without a prescription. Before you take AGENERASE, tell your doctor about any drugs that you are taking or planning to take including non-prescription drugs

• You should not take any of the following medications with AGENERASE because serious or life-threatening problems could occur.*

Halcion® (triazolam) Hismanal® (astemizole) Ergot medications (Cafergot® and others) Propulsid® (cisapride) Versed® (midazolam) Vascor® (bepridil)

- You should also not take rifampin with AGENERASE because this drug reduces the effectiveness of AGENERASE. Rifampin is also known as: Rifadin, Rifamate, Rifater,
- Serious and/or life-threatening drug interactions can also occur if you take AGENERASE with any of the following drugs.* If you need to take any of these drugs, your doctor may closely monitor the amount of drug in your blood to minimize potential problems. Cordarone® (amiodarone) Phenobarbital Dilantin® (phenytoin) Lidocaine Coumadin® (warfarin) (quinidine) Quinaglute*, Cardioquin*, Quinidex*
 Antidepressants such as Elavil* (amitriptyline), Norpramin* (desipramine),
 Pamelor* (nortriptyline), Tofranil* (imipramine)
- Before you take Viagra® (sildenafil) with AGENERASE, talk to your doctor about possible drug interactions and side effects. If you take Viagra and AGENERASE together, you may be at increased risk of side effects of Viagra such as low blood pressure, visual changes, and penile erection lasting more than 4 hours. If an erection lasts longer than 4 hours, you should seek immediate medical assistance to avoid permanent damage to your penis. Your doctor can explain these symptoms to you.

- If you use birth control pills, talk to your doctor about choosing a different type of contraceptive, since AGENERASE may reduce the effectiveness of some birth control pills.
- Because AGENERASE Capsules and Oral Solution contain large amounts of vitamin E, you should not take additional vitamin E while taking AGENERASE.

Special considerations:*

If you take AGENERASE with Mycobutin® (rifabutin), your doctor will lower the dose of Mycobutin. If you take AGENERASE with Videx® (didanosine, ddl), take them at least 1 hour apart. If you take AGENERASE with antacids, take them at least 1 hour apart.

Does AGENERASE cure HIV infection or AIDS?

AGENERASE does not cure HIV infection or AIDS. At this time we do not know if AGENERASE will help you live longer or have fewer of the medical problems (opportunistic infections) that are associated with HIV infection or AIDS. Because of this, you must be sure to be seen regularly by your healthcare professional.

Does AGENERASE reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

No. AGENERASE, as well as other anti-HIV medications, has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination. Continue to practice safe sex and do not use or share dirty needles.

Who should not take AGENERASE?

Do not take AGENERASE if you have had a serious allergic reaction to AGENERASE or any of its ingredients. If you have liver disease, your dosage of AGENERASE may have to be adjusted.

If you are allergic to sulfa drugs, you should inform your doctor.

Can children take AGENERASE?

Children from 4 to 12 years of age can also take AGENERASE. Your doctor will tell you if the oral solution or capsule is best for your child. Your child's doctor will decide the right dose based on your child's weight and age. AGENERASE has not been studied in children under 4 years of age.

Can pregnant women and nursing mothers take AGENERASE?

AGENERASE has not been studied in pregnant women and the risk to the unborn child is not known. Talk to your doctor if you are pregnant or if you become pregnant while taking AGENERASE

Mothers with HIV should not breastfeed their infants because HIV in the breast milk can infect the infant.

What other medical conditions should I discuss with my doctor? Talk to your doctor if you are pregnant or if you become pregnant while you are taking AGENERASE.

Also talk to your doctor if you have hemophilia or problems with your liver

How should I store AGENERASE Capsules and Oral Solution? AGENERASE Capsules and Oral Solution should be stored at room temperature and

should not be refrigerated.

Other information: This medication is prescribed for a particular condition. Do not use it for any other condition or give it to anybody else. Keep AGENERASE and all medicines out of the reach of children

Ask a healthcare professional any questions you may have about AGENERASE.

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Outdoorsy dykes on hikes

by Victoria A. Brownworth

Women on the Verge: Lesbian Tales of Power and Play by Susan Fox Rogers (St. Martin's,

ykes loving all things outdoorsy know Susan Fox Rogers as an avid sportswoman and equally avid anthologist. In Women on the Verge: Lesbian Tales of Power and Play, Rogers levels the playing field once again with another round of adventure stories for lesbiase. In again with another round of adventure stories for lesbians. In Verge, writers as diverse as Eileen Myles, Linnea Due, tatiana de la tierra, Lucy Jane Bledsoe and Karla Jay traverse the world of lesbian adventure — most often outdoors, but sometimes with interior land-scapes as well River, rating sky. scapes as well. River-rafting, sky-diving, rock-climbing, racquetball, bungee-jumping, swimming, wild sexual escapades — it's all here in this often entertaining but not always cohesive volume

Rogers opens with the com-plaint that collections of lesbian plaint that collections of lesbian erotica have only touched the surface of how dykes play; she wants to broaden the field, so to speak. The resultant collection is not always successful but is quite sexual, despite Rogers' disclaimer. Some of the pieces are very good, others quite weak, and some don't seem to belong at all, regardless of the vague rubric Rogers has used for inclusion. The majority detail sporty outdoor adventures of the above-mentioned type, but interabove-mentioned type, but interpregnant in the collection's worst-named essay; a Latina's political protest goes awry; a lesbian gets an anonymous phone call from two teenage girls). Rogers' link is the question of what constitutes adventure, how we dykes achieve a sense of power through our play, though not all of these pieces have a strong lesbian connection. Rappelling through the collec-tion, one should light upon the following pieces. Call me a tradi-tionalist, but this reader likes per-sonal essays to have a point. "Ship of Fools," Linnea Due's blackly comedic tale of a river-rafting trip pregnant in the collection's worst

comedic tale of a river-rafting trip gone terribly awry, has a begin-ning, middle, end — and metaphor. Highly visual and at times alarming (we know she survives, she's written the piece; but it seems touch-and-go in places), Due achieves something at essay's end: she has survived and learned a thing or two about herself and the others she's run the river with. Gretchen Legler's haunting "Lake One, Lake Two..." evokes the

essence of the book as it traverses interior landscapes as well as the and abject terror solitary trips through the out-doors; again, Legler uses the map-ping of her outdoor adventure (canoeing solo in winter) as a metaphor for her interior search. metaphor for her interior search. Lambda and ALA award-winner Lucy Jane Bledsoe details the book's most defining and surpris-ing adventure in "On Being at Sea," reminiscent of a modernday dyke version of Robert Louis

Fat revenge

Fat revenge
Other pieces compel —
Donna Steiner's graceful "Connect the Dots"; Su Penn's angry and amusing "Air, Gravity, Earth," which could be subtitled, "Revenge of a Fat Sky-Diving Dyke"; BK Loren's story of one lesbian's response to violence, "Eye of the Storm"; and Rogers' own exploration of rock-climbing in the city, "Traverses."
What disappoints are the

city, "Traverses."

What disappoints are the pieces that should have been marvelous, most especially "The Big

Island," poet Eileen Myles' tale of being lost at night in Hawaii as she attempts to view a live vol-cano. The positively harrowing scene as other watchers disappear, her flashlight dies and she loses all sense of direction in the sharp is-land grass and molten stone rivets the reader. But the piece simply ends; dawn comes, she gets her bearings, drives for coffee and flies back to New York. Sigh. One can only imagine this tale in the hands only imagine this tale in the hands of a poet. Likewise, tatiana de la tierra's essay on her arrest after a political protest fits the bill for adventure, but holds no insight into the aspects of political and social privilege she alludes to as the story opens.

Most anthologies — I state

Most anthologies — I state from experience — are uneven; there will always be gems and althere will always be gems and al-ways be pieces that don't quite measure up to those sparklers. Rogers seems to have dropped the ball on her own idea; these are predominantly memoirs, and as such, many of these stories simply needed solid editing to take them beyond mere retelling of the ex-



perience all the way into explica-tive and illuminating nonfiction. Meanwhile, others should have been saved for a different collec-tion altogether. Ultimately, the dramatic question of what consti-tutes power and play and what that *means* gets realized in only a few pieces, like those mentioned above.

Read Women on the Verge for those pieces that make one think about lesbians charting new terri-tory. Or take it on vacation for the vicarious thrills it provides for the lesbian beach potato as she bakes and broils on the sand. ▼



Not to be missed

by Deborah Peifer

Hers3: Brilliant New Fiction by Lesbian Writers edited by Terry Wolverton with Robert Drake; Faber & Faber, \$15

he third time must be the charm. After the disappointing Hers and Hers2, I was quite prepared to skip Hers3, but when I noticed a short story by Emma Donoghue (Hood, Kissing the Witch), it just seemed the smart choice to read her story at least. "How a Lady Dies" is quite a remarkable short story, inspired

page 52 ▶

42 Ohhhhhhhhh Smooth. Silky atural Feel

K-Y°Brand Liquid Lubricant has always been water-based, making it safe to use with latex condoms. And the name you know you LIQUID can trust. But now K-Y Brand Liquid has been proven to be the longest lasting personal lubricant. Perfect for you and your partner. Just use a little for a silky-smooth, sensual feeling that goes a long, long way.

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1525 Mission St. 1 blk 5. of Market btwn 11th & S. Van Ness loadingdocksf.com 415.864.1525 DRESS CODE FRI & SAT: Leather, Latex, Uniform, Industrial, 501s w/BLACK BOOTS Thur 9 - 1 Fri & Sat 9 - 2 Sun 8 - 1

Decadence and daddy's boys

by Mister Marcus

f you've never been to the Southern Decadence weekend in New Orleans, you have no idea what you are missing. It's hot and humid, sure, and the Quarter is body-to-body with huge crowds. It's a test of stamina that strains even the heartiest. Most of all, it's decadence at its most blatant and outrageous, with everyone hell-bent on having a great time. If any-one didn't have a good time, their outlay for air fare, hotels, food and booze would have been a big

waste, but I doubt anyone will be complaining about that. The plane that transported me to the Big Easy last Friday morn-ing had at least 50 leather people aboard. Hundreds of others from San Francisco had already arrived in the city, and hundreds came after, so rest assured our city by the Bay was well represented in New Orleans for Southern Decadence, the gay Mardi Gras held yearly

over the Labor Day weekend.

One of the main events of the weekend was the Mr. Louisiana Leather 2000 Contest. It began with a meet-and-greet at the Phoenix bar on Friday night, held on an impromptu stage in a blocked-off street. Nine men competed for the title, including Manuel Aragon of Washington, D.C.; Kevin-Bruce Breux; Gregory Cain Timm Holt; Jin Johnson; Chuck Lance; Brian Le; Tim Lott; and Jason Lowery — a handsome bunch if ever there was

I was honored to be on the judging panel along with Lenny Broberg, Jill Carter, Bruce Chopnik, Thom Dombkowski,

Larry Everett, Scott Garrett (the outgoing Mr. Louisiana Leather),



Lance Brittain (center) is the 1999 SF Leather Daddy's Boy, pictured here with runner-up Terry Gauchet (left) and Todd Kepus, last year's winner. The contest took place last Sunday, Sept. 4 at the Eagle.

Sean Reilly of Long Beach, California, and Al Santora, founder of the Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather contest. The judging

interviews were both humorous and enlightening, and it wasn't easy choosing Mr. Louisiana Leather 2000,

It's hard to determine which city, Atlanta or New Orleans, most epitomizes Southern hospitality. But in

New Orleans, the red carpet was rolled out for the judges, along

with an elaborate feast on Friday with an elaborate reast on Friday night at Alpine in the French Quarter. The Sunday brunch after the contest at Sbisa's is probably one of the best Sunday brunches you could ever find in a city where the cuisine is everywhere magnificent. The people of New Orleans are friendly, hedonistic, and ever so grazious

The competition site this year was changed from Le Petit Theatre to a beautiful auditorium on the outskirts of the city, where the crowd was enthusiastic and sup-

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EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Thursday, September 9

Constantines MC beer bust at the Lone Star tonight from 2000-2300. It costs \$8 and benefits

Friday, September 10

California B&B Corps uniform night at the Loading Dock. Fall in, line up, and check out the other

Weekend, September 10-11

Ms. Calgary Leather 1999 contest weekend with meet & greet at Rooks on Friday; contest begins on Sat. at Calgary Multicultural Center, at 2100. Winner will compete at Int'l. Ms. Leather 2000 in

Weekend, September 11-12

Leatherless leathermen basking in the sun on Johnson Beach in Guerneville for the 23rd annual Russian River Jazz Festival. Plenty of tickets left, so check out the sounds, the men, the sun and the

Saturday, September 11

Cal Eagles MC ride to Marin, with tour of Marin Cheese Factory. Depart from Daddy's at 1000 and

bring \$\$ for gas, bridge tolls and lunch.

Bare Chest Calendar 2000 men sign and sell the
Millennium calendar at Club Lunacee in Corte Madera, from 2100 to 2400. It's a benefit. Be

Sunday, September 12 Mr. and Ms. Cheeks & Chaps congest at the Edge tonight to benefit UCSF AIDS Health Project,

Tuesday, September 14

Masters & slaves Together meet at the Lone Star at 1930 for subject: Terminology-Top to Bottom. Confused? No fee. No beer. No membership. For info, email Sir4boy@aol.com

Weekend, September 17-19

In Munich, Germany? It's Oktoberfest time, and all the leather activity takes place this weekend. Beer, men, leather, festivitles!

Friday, September 17

Exiles of SF gather to present Ruth Marks demo: "Canes, Rods and Switches . . . Oh My!". Doors open at1930; demo from 2000-2300. \$3 for mem-bers, \$5 for guests. You know what Ruth did to Mark Frazier! Check it!

Art to be auctioned off at the Leather Daddies
Art Auction on September 23 will be on display at
Auto Erotica until September 23. Check it out.

Saturday, September 18

BOSF beer bust at the Lone Star, from 1500 to1900, for \$7, including hot dogs. Dedicated to David "Puddles" Dysart. A benefit for Maitri Hos-

Leathernecks SM party at Castlebar. Doors open 2100 and close at 2230; \$12 donation. You know the rules, the place and the action.

Sunday, September 19

Kick-off SF Leather Pride Week by pledging and making the Leather Pride Walk from Daddy's on Castro to the Eagle via the Loading Dock. Step off at 1300. More on this one later. Then the games

Hooters

by Sweet Lips

lash - the 1100 Club has done it again. Every Friday
evening at 11 p.m., a fabulous new drag show, *Titz and*Glitz, with Grizelda as hostess. Hilarity, hoots and hollers are bound to happen at that Polk & Post establishment.

The always pop-ular Eagle bar is having another anniversary on Wednesday, Sept. 15, starting at with a buffet by Dennis ("Pork at 5 p.m., **Cocktail Hour** 'n' Polkas") Tyler. Remember,

Hyler, Keinember,
the Eagle parties are fantastic, so
get there early, children.
Dick report: Yes, Dick Deemer
is due to leave the Fire Island
Pines and return to the City by the

Bay on Sept. 27 after a long, hot summer in NY. Let's hope he's recharged his batteries for the Fall.

Can you believe that I haven't had a drink since August 137 But I can still sling 'em. Join us at the 1100 Club for a morning party (10 a.m. to Noon) on Sunday,

i.m. to Noon) on Sunday,
Sept. 19, to meet one of
Seattle's talented
artists, Mr. Ray
McWade, who painted
my original portrait
many cons ago. Ray lived
in Sausalito for many
years, so those of
you who remember him, come ber him, come

on down. Of be a continental breakfast by Chef Dennis ("Quiches'n' Peaches") Tyler, and

yes, I will be at the plank tending that bar.

The Council of Empresses



Sweet Lips by Ray McWade

wants you to hold Sunday, Sept. 12 open, 4-8 p.m., for an auction of some of the most glamorous or some of the most glamorous gowns ever seen on a male body. Bid on beautifully modeled outfits donated by SF's Imperial dignities. At the newly-opened Tango Tango Club, 1515 California St. near Polk. Don't miss it, right, Pat Montclair?

a taste of leather San Francisco's Original Erotica Emporium Check Out Our: rubber clothes FOLSOM jackets chaps andcuffs tit clamps restraints whips & paddles and so much OPEN 'till Midnight Fri & Sat!! OPEN 'till 10pm Fri & Sat!! Castro Store 2370 Market Street (415) 552-4500 Open Daily SoMa Store 1339 Folsom Street (415) 252-9166 Open Dally

Mister Marcus

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portive. The sound and lighting were class acts, and the vocal ren-derings by Jay Scott and a talented drag entertainer kept the crowd enthralled. A huge, glittering Leather Pride flag served as the backdrop for the speeches, leather wear, and physique scoring segments. Frank Nowicki once again demonstrated

his expertise as an emcee.

Jill Carter presented the Unsung Hero Award that is now a part of almost every leather com-petition, and this time it went to George Hester, a cutie with a heart of gold who, as president of the Lords of Leather, has brought the club to national prominence. The Knights d'Orleans were on hand helping out, and the display of unity between the two clubs was

unity between the two clubs was heartwarming.

American Leatherman Scott Reikofski and his International Drummer Boy, Ryan Goldner, brought the house down by reprising Scott's fantasy when he competed and won the title at the

American Brotherhood Weekend

American Brotherhood Weekend contest.
Outgoing Mr. Louisiana Leather, Scott Garrett, gave a heartfelt stepping-aside speech that garnered a standing ovation, and IML Bruce Chopnik has eased into his title duties with aplomb and had little problem with his inspiring speeches, earning another standing ovation.

Members of the Leather Archives & Museum team (Jill Carter, Dean Ogren and others)

Carter, Dean Ogren and others) made a pitch for more funds, and the crowd was both receptive and

the crowd was both receptive and generous.
Finally, the moment of truth arrived. The tallies had been counted and the results were at hand. The second runner-up was the handsome Tim Lott of Hattiesburg, Mississippi; the first runner-up was Timm Holt, a 51 year and the most form New Octobers and old man from New Orleans; and Mr. Louisiana Leather is Chuck Lance, a strikingly handsome 40-year-old bartender at the Phoenix Bar in New Orleans.

Standing at an even 6-feet tall with black hair and blue eyes, Chuck is very friendly and cer-

tainly an American beauty. His agreeable personality should serve him well when he competes at

IML in Chicago next May. Southern Decadence and the Mr. Louisiana Leather contest is an event you should plan to at-tend sometime soon. You will not be disappointed. I know I shall re-

Boys at the Eagle

A big crowd materialized for the 17th annual SF Leather Daddy's Boy contest last Sunday afternoon at the Eagle. There were anternoon at the bagie. There were only five contestants this year: Lance Brittain; Will Brunner; Joe Cote; Terry Gauchat; and a fe-male, Biff Wilson. Choosing a winner was obvi-

ously no easy chore for judges Pam Meyers, Sandy "Mama" Reinhardt, Kelly Showers, Loren Berthelson and outgoing Daddy's Boy Todd Kepus. When all was said and done,

Lance Brittain (formerly Mr. Alameda Co. Leather) took the title, with Terry Gauchat (a former bare chest calendar winner) the

From all reports, a good time was had by all. The crowd was en-thusiastic and supportive, the food was great, and the ticket sales for various prizes were up to par. The outlook for a great year with Lance looks very, very good.

Burn the leather man

A big contingent of San Franciscans made their presence known at the Burning Man weekend in the Nevada desert over the Labor Day holiday. Now in its 13th year, this ritualistic exercise in hedonism has grown to gigan-tic proportions, and I know at least two dozen leathermen who were on the scene, not to mention a couple of B.A.R. staff members.

a couple of B.A.R. staff members. Labor Day weekend 1999 ended on Monday, and now the rush is on to finish the thousands of tasks associated with Leather Pride Week 99, which kicks off with the Leather Pride Walk on Sunday, September 19, with par-ticipants, proceeding from ticipants proceeding from Daddy's in the Castro to the Eagle via the Loading Dock and the

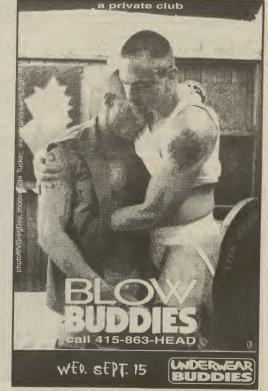
Powerhouse.

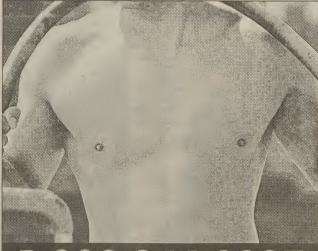
Thousands of leather folk are gearing up for the invasion of San Francisco to attend the Interna-tional Mr. Drummer contest and tional Mr. Drummer contest and the 16th Folsom Street Fair. I had to eat my words about a sunny day for the fair last year, so I'm making no predictions, nor am I believing any local weather forecasts.



Mr. Louisiana Leather 2000 winners (L. to R.) Tim Lott (2nd runner-up), Chuck Lance (the winner), and Timm Holt (1st runner-up) in New Orleans on Saturday, Sept. 4.







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PARTING GLANCES

Ton Kiang Sat. 8/7 Upstairs You, Asian, beautiful with older woman (mother?) Me, blonde with Asian friend. Had to leave. Would love to meet. 🕿 8900

Beldon Lane Cafe 52 Wed 8/4/99 11:45am, you with two women going to funch, Me waiting for friend at Beldon and Pine. You sat at window table at Cafe 52. Want to do lunch? № 8901

The Third Man
Fri 9:30pm 8/13. was one seat away
on your right. liked your eyes/ sweet
smile. About to say something but
your boyfriend (?) got in between us.

29 9000

Jack Market St Gym 8/6
Jack, met you on Friday 8/6 at Mar-ket St. Gym. Have wanted to ask you out, wish I would have then. Want to have dinner? Brad Ω 9006

Pasta Pomodoro, Sun 8/8 5:45pm You were waiting outside in royal blue tee, we were sitting in window. Wanted to talk, but waitress came to take our order as you walked by. An-other chance? \$\square\$ 9001

Outside CPMC On Webster 8/9
You: getting on bike. Me: suit, goatee. Both kept looking. Should have said something stupid like "nice bike". Now's my 2nd chance. If mutual, call. 12 9003

Your Briefs Caught My Eye City Hall; late afternoon. You had just fallen down all those stairs and was being lead into ambulance by paramedics. I was cute lawyer. Gave you my card. Did you smile? I sure did! Interested? \$\tilde{2}\$ 1913 Chow, July 30 9:30pm I was starting dinner, you were leaving and walked by. We smiled and waved to each other. Me: GAM w/ friend, You: cute GWM with? us: dinner? № 9005

Steamworks July 30
You wanted a third to find us, but no rooms. I found someone but you got shy. Let's try again. Call me, please. 28 8903

Cute Long-haired & Bearded Guy Sunday the 8th, burrito place on 18th, each with two friends. Nice en-ergy, captivating smile, resonant wavelength. We should have said more than "hi"!

2 9004

Orange Tech Vest On Muni 7/31 Sat. 5:15pm. You got on Church St. w/Asian friend? Caught your beauti-ful eyes coming in. Mer. Asian in blk. leather jacket w/friend. Would love to meet. \$\to\$ 9007

You Touched Me At Sliders U BM Sat 8/14 about 2:00pm, Me-white boy, crewcut blond gray cycling tights, you- hot, tall BM with sunglasses & body! We said hi, you patted my behind, want more? 29 9008

Danish-Sensual-Friday Night

Just Do It Waterfront Muni, Sun 8/22, you: grey hair, nike shirt. Me: brn hair, mustache. You said, "great day" as you left. Let's continue the conversation.

9 9100

SuperShuttle Mon 7/26 From SFO I was first off in Bernal Heights, you went on. Both came in from Albuquerque but on different airlines. Both going home to cats. Let's meet again. 22 8902

Write the rest of your ad here, 30

Muni Bus 45 8/11 6pm, you: Asian sitting in the back, me with 2 friends getting off on Stockton. Our eyes caught each other. I would like to introduce myself. ♀ 9101 l woul 9101

Pablo, Pablo, Pablo
Met you at the "place" 8/17 stared
at you, kissed you, took you home and
loved your beautiful self. It's James,
you have the #. 29 9102

Cute Blonde Mkt St Gym 8/16 Saw you in gym and in locker room around 4:00pm. We smiled at each other. Me shaved head, goatee (beard), tatoos, very attracted to you. Hope to see you again. \$\to\$ 9104

Bay Bridge Fri 8-13 5pm U dark wavy hair BMW, me brown hair SAAB conv. Our eyes met, would like to talk. Plz call. @ 9105

Pasta Pomodoro Sun Eve 8/22/99 You: The biggest, most beautiful black bodybuilder I've ever seen. I wanted to speak to you but you were with someone. Let's talk. ☎ 9200

18th & Castro Thru 8/26 2pm
Me, blue shirt, glasses, trim build,
going to Different Light. I said it was
uncomfortably hot in shirt; You said,
"take it off!" You continued on 18th.
29 9201

Pittsburg Bart Sat 8/21 3:30pm Pittsburg Bart Sat 8/21 3:30pm We sat across from each other and said "Hi". You: Handsome, wearing shorts with great legs. Me: Beard, buzz-cut, t-top, shorts, husky, nothing ventured, nothing gained. Please call Roger. 29 9202

Pine St. Post Office- Sat 8/21 I was behind you in line. We joked about how long it was taking. You had on a white tank top and shorts. I was in total "awe......" Dinner? 29 9203

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Seeks Top Dad

Very attractive light complex GBM, 5'9", 160 in shape, prof, eager sunsissive, seeks top dad to age 50.

Height/wgl, prop, and over 6", over 180lbs. E Bay only. HIV-.

8904

Fun Hot Date 34yr. old, good looking, intelligent, masculine, Eurasian with hard mucular, smooth athletic body, looking for guys of any race for fun. Prefer attractive, fit muscular, smooth, interesting young men. 22 8905

Laid Back Dad Seeks Son/Lover Semi-ret, prof. W-male seeks a mar-ried or s/w male under 45. Very re-warding experience promised. 22 8906

Available Latino 4 U
I'm 28, 5'7", 165lbs, stocky, muscu-lar, busy grad student. Hoping to meet guys, Latino or White under 40 for friendship, then more. 28 8907

Passionate, Sexy, Ital/Am GWMHIV+ Passionate, sexy, statistant or the state of the state o

No Strings Good strong aggressive sex with no serious relationship nor committee love... Just safe sex. 18-30 Blacks, Asians, Latinos and Indians. No drugs, smokers or drinkers, fems or fats. № 8909

Expert Cocksucker
Senior GWM 5'7", 130lbs, begs to
worship verbal married straight, hgtweight proportional, on a casual
basis, no sm, no stds. 22 8910

Giving Up In SF Masculine, muscular, very affection-ate, 5'11", 175# 35. Looking for dating, partner in life. Find dating very difficult in S.F. sexually looking for someone dominant. Please re-spond, getting lonely! ♀ 8911

Butt Of Course It's Mutual HIV poz, GHM 39, 5'5" 155, ISO 32-44 hairy man for mutual buttplay dildos and more common interests for dating and LTR. Lots of mutual buttplay guaranteed. 22 8912

I'm A Daddy Type GWM 55 200# masc, str8 acting, hairy, seeking masc str8 acting bub-ble butt in my face to sniff & j/o friendship or Itr HIV-. Age/race open. 28 8914

34 Seeking 65+ GM 34, 5'10", 160lbs, very loving, honest & educated seeking GM over 65 age little heavy plus. Must be hon est, loving & caring. Possible ltr. ♀ 8915

GWM Good Looking 37 Seeking GWM 30-45 for companionship in the new millennium. I'm 5'10", br/br, 147#, HIV-, sensitive, creative, intel-ligent, truthful, faithful, versatile. You are similar. № 8916

Attention Red Heads
GWM, 40, slender, brn, grn, into old
popular music, antiques, architecture,
etc. crewcut, goatee, not into bars,
drugs, etc. Seeking person for fun,
friendship, poss ltr. 12 9009

Do You Have Gigantic Nipples? Hot musc. guy seeks a guy w/ extra large nipples. My goal is to suck, milk and satisfy you. You won't be disappointed. Pls, serious only. Pref, smooth body. ☎ 9010 Calling All Young Men To 45
I am sensitive friendly open GWM 50.
You want no obligation caring form actual man who'll explore needs of body and soul. Call to talk; good sex optional. © 9011

Handsome White Lover 35yrs n/s, n/d Aslan look q, friendly, honest. Love music, movie. Seeking white goodlooking guy 36-42. Ro-mance, honest, sexy. Let's get togeth-er. ☎ 9012

Are You Still Alone
Cute, goodlooking GAM, ISO top
straight acting GWM 40-55, tall with
facial hair, know how to love. Ns, nd,
honest, sincere S.F. to E Bay, U
won't be disappointed. \$\old{\Omega}\$ 9013

Muscular HIV+ Asian Sks Same Muscular HIV + Asian Sks Same Handsome Asian with muscular smooth body, 5'6", 130# 42yo pro-fessional who enjoys movies, books, travel and sex. Seeks a man with sim-llar interests and with a muscular body also. 22 9014

HIV+ Total Top Wanted Capricorn, cancer, virgo- blackhair brown eyes, any race. HIV + Pitts-burgh Taurus, 37, blue dirty blond 6 foot 185- looking for suburban loving boyfriend- let's snuggle and play-house! ♀ 9015

Boyish Good Looks
GAM slim, masculine, professional
with good looks and personality ISO
good-looking masculine GWM or
GHM In his 20's-30's, HIV- for quality times, Itr.
9017

Berkeley Guy
SGWM, handsome, slim, 35, 6', 148, blackhazel, goatee, top, HIV-, nd, ns, employed ucb, likes hiking, logging, movies, tv, sports. ISO guy under 40- for hanging out, friendship, play.

9106

Be My "Man Of The Millennium" I'm 38, affectionate, humorous, responsible, average GWM. You're Asian/Filipino top/ versatile, stable, honest, smart, non-smoker. We're interested in movies, nature, current events, music, conversation, commitment. \$\omegap\$ 9107

Master 68 ISO Boy-Toy Slave Hungry, thirsty, bondage, discipline, spanking ,humiliation, water sports HIV-, relocation involved out of state all breeds welcome. 🕰 9108

Spank Me Cute college frat boy 22 needs over the knee discipline from dominant big brother. Jock strap, speedo, boxer shorts, diapers. Spank me today. \$\mathbb{Q}\$ 9109

Daddy Knows Best You'd agree with 8" of nordic man-meat up yours. You're 5'10", 160lbs, trim, firm, hairy, HIV + Mediter-ranean. Service oriented. ☎ 9110

ISO Big Dicked Tops
Me: 50, good looking, 5'11", 175lb, goatee, workout, brn/hzl, shaved head, HIV+, versatile, looking for regular buddy, open to LTR. You: under 35, any race, top or versatile, over 9". No drugs or heavy drinkers.

Tibetan/Mongolian Queer Wanted 6" WM,160lb, lean, athletic, very young 50yo, ns, HIV-, wanna be free spirit, seeking Tibetan, similar attributes, 5'10" plus, under 40yo for fun and more. 12 9112

Financially Secure Male
Wanted by an educated, intelligent,
creative and good-looking guy. Please
answer my ad for fun, good times etc.
9113

Mulatto Guy Good-looking, intelligent, educated, nice-looking for the right type of guys for fun, a relationship or whatever. № 9114

Looking For Lover Local Area Looks not so important. Solid person-ality is. I live in San Leandro. You in same area. Where are you? Let's fall in love! © 9115

Blond Hunk In Santa Rosa
43, look younger, easy going, compassionate, understanding & HIV-,
brn hair, brn eyes, mustache, a top.
Looking for his bottom 25-45yo.
Dark haired A+, with a sense of
humor. ♀ 9116

HIV+ Total Top Wanted Capricorn, Cancer or Virgo, black hair, brown eyes, any race, HIV+, Pittsburph, Taurus, 37, blue, dirty blonde, 6tt, 185-looking for suburban loving boyfriend to play house! \$\mathbb{Q}\$ 9117

GAM Seeking GWM For LTR
Handsome, masculine GAM 38, 5'9"
135lbs, seeks in-shape GWM 30-45,
HIV- college educated, hairy. Facial
hair, versatile, leather SF preferred.
22 9118

Guerneville, My Son (& Lover)?
Me: always 39, 5'9", 160, attr., broker, into sucking/rimming/piss. You:
18+ smart, presentable, industrious, hung, uncut, eager to perform at office, in sack. © 9119

Hot Fun Attractive 5'10", 175; rd.blu, hung. ISO guys for fun times and dating. Prefer Latinos/Blacks. 2 9204 GLM HIV-Hot ISO GWM HIV-27-38

GLM HIV-Hot ISO GWM HIV-27-3£ 5'6", 28yo, 135#, clean cut, boyish, n/s, you: good shape & looks, n/s, funny, energized, masculine, taller than 5'11"; profess., friendship/ro-mance to share sunny days & steamy restless nights.

9205

Nice Guy, WM, Mid-Thirties, 61", brown hair, green eyes, good looking, clean-cut, academic, gymgoer, warm, considerate, honest, interesting, non-superficial. Interested in everything from coffee chats too? You call, I'll respond. It's a deal! 29 9206

In Liberty Hill Area Hot Daddy 1 am looking for a hot Latino man 18-35. Me: hot blond, blue, 5'8", 169, 33, outgoing, fun, dinner, cof-fee, tea, or head. \$\infty\$ 207

One Of A Kind Asian LTR
Sweet and charming professional
Asian, educated, romantic, independent, 35/5'6''/145 artistic and good
dresser, seeks GWM 30-40 serious
w/similar traits like me. 22 9208

GLM 27, 6'1" Seeking Friends and possible LTR. I'm sweet, sentimental, pisees, like walks on the beach, cuddler, hugs, kissing, etc. 29

Cock Worship Hairy GWM mostly bottom (versatile), oversexed, stocky, muscular legs, fat dick, 63, 5'5", short s/p beard. Seeking under 50, hung and/c thick. Insatiable hairy satyr A+. 29 9210

GWM Bottom Seeks GAM Top 32yo blond, muscular, versatile, wild, sane, sexually submissive and masochistic. Please be under40 and open to on going relationship. 22 9211

Long Motorcycle Trips, Romance, Film noir, dinners, county fairs, junk stores, C&W, kink to cuddle. Me: 37, 5'8", 145, br/hzl, beard, hairy chest, HIV+. You: older brother/daddy, taller, facial & chest hair. 29 9212

Seeking Top
Me: 45, 5'7", 145, great shape, told
very attractive, educated, interests,
outdoors, sense of humor. You: under
54, HIV-, GWM, short like me, verbal at times. 22 9213

We Discover Each Other
I am Japanese very creative & romantic. I really love myself. Like
someone very special to share my love
with. I enjoy love & sex. Someone
who appreciates Japanese culture.
We 5-58", Sim healthy. You: 5060yrs old. Pls call serious only. Life
is very short enjoy each other.
9214

I Love Tall Guys GWM, 30, cute, boyish face, br/br, 5'8", 160 athletic build, seeks very tall (over 6'1"), fit, stable, relation-ship- oriented GWM between 25-35 Beautiful eyes, good heart, spiritual are pluses. 29 9215

Attractive Latino Goodlooking 34y/o dark hair, brown eyes, goatee, professional looking for GWM between 26-40y/o for friend-ship or more. Me: likes movies, din-ner, travel, hiking, biking, etc. 29 9216

SEEKING **ADVENTURE**

In Between Girlfriends? SWM, likes only straight men to ser-vice. I'm clean, attractive, 6, 1754, 38, friendly, educated, healthy, in-shape, HIV neg, ub similar, my place in SF, relax and become new friends. № 8917

PERSONAL ARE FREE!

You must use this form to submit ads. Deadline for ads is TUESDAY at 5 PM, for the following week's issue. New ads run for three consecutive weeks. You will be notified by mail with information on how to leave and retrieve messages from your mailbox ad. Print clearly. No ads will be accepted without valid address, telephone number and legible text. The Bay Area Reporter reserves the right to edit ads. One ad per customer per week.

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MAIL FORM TO: BAR Talk, Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103

Lesbian 🗌 Fetishes \square

CATEGORY

Parting Glances

Seeking Relationship

Seeking Adventure

Couples

Others

Stake Your Claim
Outdoorsman back from summer treks abroad. My butt needs attention. Handsome, 5'11", 170lbs. Blonde, great legs, great ass, in shape.

8918

Latino/Pilipino Sex!!!

1/4 Spanlsh 3/4 Pilipino ISO Latinos/Pilipinos! We're masculine, handsome, fit, 20-40s. I'm SF native, single, professional, trim, -muscular, 41
look 30, buzzcut, moustache, top (optional), 577′, 40c, 28w... Call! 92
8919

Need Strong Teddy Bear Dad Tall, thin, toned, sandy blond, late 30's seeks stocky daddy-type for ten-der, loving, father/son scene. You're fit, healthy, hairy, 50's-60's, affec-tionate, safe. Let's cuddle. ☎ 8921

Want Servicing?
Cl-ct masc GWM 5'9"×155, discreet, deep throat, tight smooth butt, not to service, cl ct masc men, good shape ht to wt, 25-48, verbal, aggressive +s. ☎ 8922

Master Of Spectacle Master Of Spectacle Seeks charismatic, superbly built feeder/fucker, 23-33, to showcase. B scrutinized and savored at your blue best by a select, extremely discrimi-nating, anonymous audience. Unique-ly raw, not a leather scene. 12 8923

Asian Bottoms Come And Get It Give your ass to a hot top- I will sat-isfy you. 36 GWM good looks & body and I have a nice cock for you. \$\to\$ 8924

Afternoon Suckbuddies
Wanted by hot, sexy daddy type, 50's,
trim. I like giving or receiving and
I've got a big one! U b trim, under
50, hung big, and ready to play!
Morning ok too.

№ 8925

HIV+ Dad Needs Submissive Son For discipline, bondage, roleplay, buttplay. Me: attractive, 52 y/o Ital-ian-German 5'8", ISollos, dark hair eyes complexion. You: attractive, younger, any race, trim, masculine obedient.

8926

Chocolate- Covered Romance
Handsome GWM seeks romantic
Black male for lively conversation,
passionate sex, spontaneous adventures. Me: 40, tall, gym-toned,
brown/blue, enjoy arts, reading, outdoors, Prefer muscular, wordfuly,
available for intimacy. 22 8927

Black Bottom Hole To Fuck For "experienced uninhibited top" 150 easy access bottom I'm, masc 39, 5'11"/150# goatee, shaved head. You, ht, wt/ prop, masc & ready to fuck. \$28928

Beefy Cocksucker Seeking top who needs regular ser-vice by masculine guy. Into all oral action. Must love to spread your legs. Leave details. 22 8930

Daddy's Looks But Really A Boy? GWM sex mentor with big nipples and kind heart wants to meet you. I'm trim, 6', 155lbs., 60yo, bald/goate. ISO another trim GWM no tobacco or perfume please. ☎ 8931

Older Master Seeks Slave Boy Attr. dominant master, 75, 577, 170, seeks gdlk'g 18-45 submissive boy for ongoing sexual fun. Hung big a plus. Limits respected and open to a ltr. \$\oldsymbol{Q}\$9018

Hot White Or Latino Bottoms
Wanted by White male 55yrs old
6'0" 160lbs drk brn hair brn eyes
glasses big cut 9" dick wants to fuck
hot White or Latin bottoms under 40.

29 9019

Huge Muscles Seeks Biggest Dick Huge body builder (6'1",245#, 52,34w, 19a) seeks San Francisco's biggest dick. Any race. The bigger the dick, the more I want flex and make it cum on my chest! № 9020

A Spanking For You

Novices welcome. Limits respectee
Sex preferred after. Possible roleplay. Mer attrac. GWM, 46, 6'5",
250lbs, stocky build, brown hair/
moustache, hairy chest/ stomach.
You-attrac, GM (White, Asia.
Latin), slim, 21-35, nice buns.

2922

Buddy For Sex And Friendship Healthy GWM, 45, 145lbs, 5'8", seeks any race in shape guy early mornings or daytime hot sex-kissing, hugging, licking, & more. Let's get together & explore. № 9022

Just Shut Up And Ride
34, 5'10" 200lb blond/blue muscular
top wants good-looking masculine
men to pump me. Also love to get
massaged and jerked off-anytime.
12
9023

Free Spirited Young Man Into art and music and spirituality see older mature gentle man for adveture, fun and mayhem! 22 9024

Hot Tongue Service For Latins GWM bear wants too service Latins front nd back with my tongue. Any race of size ok. \$\alpha\$ 9025

Marin Musclemen
ISO horny Marin musclemen who requires total oral service by eager, handsome, built Marin guy. Well-endowed proffered-very discrete- my place or yours.

9027

Big Overweight Guys Wanted to service masc. top man, 37 you should be #250+ and masculine. \$\square\$9028

Generous Texas Daddy
In town for one week only loves to
suck hard, young cocks. You be 2030, great body, Cauc or Latino only.
Dad's 50's, trim, tall, & hung. 22
9029

ISO Oral Action
I'm a WLM 44, 6',155lbs ISO
younger (21+) men to give me slow,
sensual oral service all over. Effeminate looking acting a + . No s & m,
pain. 22 9030

Pete Is Back & Window Is Open! Italian stud, 46, 230#, goatee, 6', bald, top, looking for hot bubble-butts to fuck on a regular basis. 🕿 8929

In Search Of......
Handsome, athletic, HIV-, oral expert BM ISO HIV-, fit, attractive, very well-endowed BM, str8, bi ok... don't be shy. \$\alpha\$ 9120

Hard Bodies, Bodybuilders Wanted Good looking, smooth 30yo, 5'8", 160lb, with a hot ass, seeks muscle men. Love to get plowed by 30-50yo bodybuilders. 29 9121

I Love Smelly Uncut Cock! This attractive white boy, mid 30's, love sucking smelly uncut cock. If you're Asian and have a nice uncut dick, I'll clean it for you. 22 9125

Submissive Mexican Bottom
Needed to eat, suck, lick, finger, I/o
masc GWM top, 5'10", 160#, br/br,
HIV-, 50. You: eager, short, nasty
mind, HIV-. Meet weekly or more. \$2
9126

Mostly Toothless
Senior guy, 60's, 5'8", healthy, congenial, oral, appreciates giving head in long, slow sessions; your dick will appreciate this also. Mostly toothless junior guys sincerely welcomed.

9127

South Bay J/O Addict Buddies GWM, 31, thin, chronic masturbation, jacks naked for hours, days. Wants like-minded buddies for repeated, obsessive, marathon sessi peated, obsessive, marathon sessions Under 32, thin, South Bay. 29 9129

Sonoma County ISO mature, dominant man for role playing at my place. Me: 42yo, 5'9' 170#. Ready to serve. © 9130

Palo Alto GAM Bottom 40, 5'11", 185 likes giving guys under 45, average to well endowed, head. Prefer Peninsula area. 11pm-11am wk days. 🕸 9131

Give Me A Good Ride
Well built top /vers/, hung big is looking for well built men (20-30's), hairy
to sit on my face and cock for a good
ride. © 9132

Spank Me
Cute little blond grad student 22, needs over the knee action from dinant big brother today. Location China Town. 29 9217

Asian Top
Looking for slender GWM's who like
to suck cock and get fucked. Please
be clean. I'm 5'3", 30's in shape,
HIV+. \$\frac{12}{2}\$ 9218

Seeking Swallowers
GAM, height-weight proportionate.
30's seeking GWM's to suck my cock,
lick my balls, eat my ass. You be fit
and clean.
9219

Sonoma Co. Oral Slave Generous middle aged GWM will give great front and rear service to slender up. 18-35, anything safe but pain. Daytimes only. Your place, mine, or my van. Satisfaction guaranteed.

9220

Tongue Service For Latin/Asian GWM bear wants too service Latin or Asian guys front and back with my tongue. Any age or size ok. \$\to\$ 9221

White Gold
I like blonde men. White gold blondnot dark or dirty or dyed. Like other
qualities also: smarts, humor, maturity. Attractive GWM, 40s, tall and
trim, has lots to offer. Ns/nd.

9122

Are You A Hung Fucker?
33ylo, 6'2", 220lb HIV+ Jewish
dude, hairy, versalle, bottom; seeks
men 35-50 Hing over 8 inches;
preferably long+ thick for serious butt
plowing. Uncut especially appreciated.

9223

Muscle Worship
Get aroused posing, oiling up, being
admired? Handsome GWM, 45, tall
and fit, enjoys watching body builders
strut their stuff. Erotic massage optional.

9 9123

Chubbles
WM early 40's, 6',155lb,, dk hair &
eyes. I'm attracted to men with big
beer guts who eat a lot & don't exercise, who want oral action and deep
kissing. Facial/long hair A+.

9124

I Fuck Like A Straight Boy, But.. I'm NOT! Hot, GWM, 5'10" 155lbs, 36, hung, trim, seeks hot, masculine GWM/GLM 25-40 for hot times. If you're serious -call.

□ 9224

Small Boy Bottoms Wanted Young smooth tight butts to plow and pleasure - 7 1/2" big balls for you -Latin- Asian -Cauc. 22 9228

Do You Have A Huge Pumped Scrotum? Seeking men 30 to 50ylo with seriously vacuum pumped genitals (fluge testicles es-pecially admired). Looking to appreciate your genitals up close and personal. Uncut A+ HIV pos. OK 12

I'm Still Looking...
For that perfect, hot, beefy bubble-butt to bury my tongue into and make myself at home. Italian, 46, 6', 230# beefy, bald & moustache. Wanna play? ♀ 9226

Submissive. I Know My Place 6'0", 190lbs stocky-HIV_37, buzz cutt, tattoo- oral bottom- ISO masculine, dominant top, HIV_(35-50) who needs servicing on a regular basis. \$\omega\$ 9227

Sexy Bottom Pig
Kinky BM, 28, 6', 160#. ISO of raunchy top for more. I love to get plowed by 9" or more for hours. PI be ht/wt porportionate. You 25-45. Your place. 29 9229

Over The Fast Times
Med Penninsula GWM looking for
fun, friendship maybe more, HIV pos,
Italian, good looking, good shape fun
to be with, you same, let's talk. 29
9230

Massage Exchange And Whatever!
Formerly-excellent masseur (not
CMT) wants to get back to exchanges- therapeutic, erotic, or both!
Experience not necessary but desirable. I'm fit and trim, smooth, intense, playful, warm 510", 140lb,
50 with body of 38. Slow, flowing
esalen style. 29 9231

Seeking A Cock To Worship
Roll your big balls over my tongue.
Force feed me that mushroom-headed
manpole, down to the root! I'm handsome, 42yo, white, tall, in shape.
You: thick, HIV-. 12 9232

Bondage Top
Experienced bondage top 41, 5'8",
155, HIV-, good looking, masc.,
seeks submissive, masc. guy for erotic
bondage and play. Limits respected.
Safe, discreet, trustworthy. SF and
East Bay. \$\mathbb{Q}\$ 9233

FETISHES

Seeking Show-Off Top
Want to smell, lick, touch around top
man in his 40-50's in shape, role
playing, underwear, show off. I'm 44
masculine, cigar smoker, cop uniforms A+. \(\omega \) 8932

Seeking.....
Rope bondage master, ISO serious masochist for partnership, who enjoy clothpins, spanking, floggling etal for exploration, pain & pleasure. You be in shape, I'm 5'10" 185, fiendly & experienced. Serious only, № 8933

In Search Of Toilet Pigs
This hot, smooth, muscular young
(32) top seeks pigs. No limits \$2
8934

Leather= Hardon
Asian-Amer leatherman/ top, 54,
5'9", 150, young looking, good bod,
cock, mind. Wants to be serviced by
slim mass GWM leatherman. From
cod piece frottage to fucking firm ass.
28 8935

Seeks Boot Training
44yr old nipple pig bottom seeks extremely muscular dominant top willing to train this boot novice in serious boot discipline. Into tt, pointed cowboy boots, smokers +++ Please call.

\$\alpha\$ 8936

Thirsty Deep Throat Expert Into w/s. Service you in every way. ☎ 8937

Submissive Black Bottom
Seeks hot erotic, sensual top, verbal,
raunch, kink, sleaze a plus. Avail wk
ends & some eves. 28 8942

Leather Boy For Sm/Bd Experienced, sane but hot master, 50s, 6' 220 masc muse, ISO boy/slave for bondage, flogging, cbt,tt,ff,w/s etc. Novices welcome. Be fit, no fats or femmes. № 8938

Physically And Mentally Abuse Me Attn: Dominant men over 55 who like to be totally in charge- keep me in line bad boy. What you desire is what I will do. 12 8939

Couple Of Bad Boys
Very good looking, Asian & blond, in shape. Late 30's, poz. Seek Asian & Latin playmates into butt play, ff, toys, other nasty fun. 😥 8941

FeetSheerSocksThongsRubberSandal Attractive Latino 32, 5'11". 190, Virgo, size 12 shoe, n/s, n/d. Would like to meet Latins or Whites into same fetish under 38 non smokers only. No games. 22 8943

Hey Batter
Major/minor league baseball players,
let's play ball. I love a man in a baseball uniform (required) GWM 21 to
34yrs old discreet, safe, fun. № 8944

Submissive Bottom Boy Goodlooking GWM 32yr, nice body like to be dominated and fucked. Looking for 8' plus to service. ♀ 9031

Hot Dominant Bi Latino Top Seeks worthy, generous subs to ser-vice my cook and my hot little ass. Me: 6ft, 160#, very good looking. You: generous.

2 9032

Sonoma Santa Rosa Hot Hole SF2 Attractive fuckhole ISO nasty top men who like heavy fingering, dildo-ing and fing another man's buthhole. Also like fucking myself with big dil-dos while you watch, jo or videotape. \$\to\$933

Master 40's, Experienced
Looking for whipping boy/ bondage
slave-eager to please, and serve.
Subject: 21-38 with some training
and the real drive to belong. Subjects
body to be dedicated to satisfaction of
master. Limits respected/ expanded
over time. \$\omega\$ 9035

To The Edge One More Time!
You-naked - relaxed. I gently begin
to oil & massage your balls - slowly
teasing your cock into full erection.
W/a firmer grip I bring you to the
edge time & again until I say "let It
flow". © 9036

Chapped And Booted Guy GWM, 30's, 5'10" HIV-, seeks leather guys who like nipple play, 69, fetishes and full leather Asians a plus who look hot in leather chaps- jock strap, Jacket and boots to lick.

9037

Got Upper & Lower Dentures?? Would like to get gummed for long sessions. Deep throat a plus! 8", cut, poz, 6', 170, 41yo Arab/ American man. Milk it good if you want it, or just until ready. Big head. \$\to 9038\$

Sit On My Face SWM, 36, gym- toned, smooth body, blonde, seeks cute boyfriend 18-24 with smooth white ass to grind in my face. Possible permanent position. 122 9039

Couple Of Bad Boys
Very good looking, Asian & blond, in shape. Late 30's, poz. Seek Asian & Latin playmates into butt play, ff, toys, other nasty fun.

9136

Frat Paddle
Pants down frat paddling for guys
who need discipline, motivation, release. Safe, sane, stinging. 29 9235

FF Top Seeks Submissive Bottom Muscular Latin top poz seeking poz ff bottom 30 or under into being restrained B/G. pluses shaved heads, tatoos, piercings. Me ff top, pierced, tats, & 8 1/2 tool. 12 9133

Got Upper & Lower Dentures?? Would like to get gummed for long deep-throat sessions. 8"cut, poz, 6', 170, 41y.o. Arab/American man. Milk it good if you want it, or until ready. ♀ 9134

Drag Queens Sexual Interlude ISO drag-queens- red-heads ++, 18 40, cigar smoken ++, 69++, ass person++, clean & sober, discreet, 1st virgin-experience. \$2 9135

East Bay GWM 60, loves naked men w/big clean feet and cut meat, you don't have to be a greek god, just be real and I will make you feel so good. ♀ 9138

Fantacy Trip With Wild GM Meet me at Power Exchange, dress code: erotic nude, simple self-rope bondage w/cb/tt attire, play, walking, j/o togother, possibly more if we met again by GAM 36, 5°9", 150, gymtoned, You: nice looking in shape, under 40. @ 9234

Yng, Blk, Latino Dominate Tops Wanted by goodlooking 38 blond. Wanting to totally orally service you. Use me & my body for your pleasure. Kink, fun, humiliation bd/ws open minded no sm uncut + 22 9236

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Lisa Vroman

Arts cover

who wants to fulfill that responsibility. That can be very draining to one's psyche and creative energy."

And after 1,700 performances as the virginal Christine Daae, Vroman is also happy for a chance to play something other than the ingenue. "Lucy is one of Macheath's babes," Vroman said. "I think she's very spoiled. I think of her as a softer, kinder Joan Collins."

Collins."

Vroman gets to use her impressive soprano voice on two mock-opera songs in the Kurt Weill-Bertolt Brecht score: "Jealousy Duet" and "Lucy's Aria," a song cut before the original production opened in 1928 and restored in this production by translator Michael Feingold. (Director Carey Perloff's production, set in an imaginary San Francisco, also stars Bebe Neuwirth as Jenny Diver and Philip Casnoff as Macheath.)

That Broadway songwriting has been moving toward "com-mercial pop," a style Vroman said she doesn't feel suits her, is one reason she clung to her role in Phantom. But during the months after Phantom closed, Vroman immersed herself in the Broadway sounds that she most relishes. The result is Vroman's first CD.

The title, *Broadway Classic*, refers both to the songs' status as well as to a largely bygone style that called for trained singers. "People want to pigeonhole you. You're a Broadway belter, or you're a lyric soprano. I'm a crossover singer, which means I



go both ways," she said, catching herself with a laugh. "As far as this

goes, I go both ways."

Vroman is currently unat tached, and not worrying about it. The man with whom she shared 10 years, and who moved with her to San Francisco, is now in the "just friends" category and back

"I went through ups and downs," Vroman said, "but I don't think anything audiences at *Phantom* would see. How many people are happy every day of their life? Sometimes the show would become a safe place where you could just go sing. Singing is such a therapeutic thing.

Phantom for a cause

Before arriving in San Francisco with Phantom, Vroman had toured in the show for nine months as the "alternate Christine," going on three times a week to spell the first-string Christine. "I was so happy. The pressure was off me. I still got to sing. And I had time to produce the AIDS benefits that we did."

Vroman has been a big backer

Vroman has been a big backer of AIDS causes for years, and helped put together a group from the cast called Phantom Voices



Lisa Vroman

that would perform benefit con-certs across the country. In San Francisco, the cast was able to

rancisco, the cast was able to raise \$1 million.

"I feel it's my duty, being in a popular show," she said. "As Lisa Vroman, no one is going to listen to me by myself, but with the Phantom cast we had an amazing audience to speak to. Work can become a grind, but having that reason to go to work — if you're

going to speak at the end of the show, you want to give your all and make it worth it for them to give you their dollars."

Now Vroman is hoping to

fashion a career that will let her continue to be based in San Fran-cisco. "I have friends here. I have a huge flat in a Victorian with leaded glass cabinets where I keep my grandmother's teacups. And I'm becoming a godmother."

Six years ago, when the *Phantom* company invited the Make a Wish kids to see the show, 4-year-old Chad Hillstrom couldn't old Chad Hillstrom couldn't make it. "He's had a respiratory disorder from birth, and was in the hospital when the other kids came to the show," Vroman said. "His hospital is near where I live, so I just decided to go over, and he jumped in my lap, and that was that."

Chad, now 10 and still dealing with his considerable infirmities, became a backstage fixture at Phantom, and Vroman became a regular visitor to his home. "We just went to Disneyland," she said. "He's my best friend, and if I moved away, it would be very dif-ficult for both of us."

As performers go, Vroman considers herself a fairly normal person. "I used to think it was boring, but now I embrace it," she said. "Creative people are pretty sensitive, and they get a reputation for being volatile which I don't think is fair. The pressure that we're under, how vulnerable we

we're under, how vulnerable we have to be everyday, is amazing."
So what's the upside! Vroman started her answer before the question was even finished. "It's thrilling. It's like a drug. I can have a pretty miserable day and think I'm not going to have a good show, and all of a sudden get to a — it could be a note, going for a — it could be a note, going for a high note, and it will feel like riding a surfboard on that great wave." ▼

The Threepenny Opera will run at the Geary Theater through Oct. 3. Tickets are \$19-\$60. Call 749-2228

Hers3

◄ page **47**

by the real lives of Elizabeth Pen-nington (1734-59) and Frances Sheridan (1724-66), and so mov-Sheridan (1724-66), and so moving that I was tempted to read more. I am so glad that I did. Hers3 is an extraordinary collection of lesbian fiction, ranging widely in style and theme, but connected in terms of consistent-ly high quality. There's not a dud

in the bunch.
Terry Wolverton's introduction is well worth reading. She attempts to discuss seriously large
questions of lesbian identity and questions of lessian lateraty and literature, but is constantly side-tracked by the real life fact that she's being dumped by her girl-friend. Wolverton explains: "I have in the past — and publicly

— complained about the preoc-cupation with relationships in the writing of lesbians. Write about your work, write about the larger world in which you live, I've ex-horted." And yet, here she is, trynorted. And yet, nere she is, try-ing to write the damned intro-duction while hopelessly mired in her own relationship, or, at least, the dissolution of same. Wolver-ton says that someday she'll turn this angst into a work of fiction. I think she already has, and bril-liantly.

Space constraints prevent me from discussing every story in this gorgeous collection, but I can offer a hint of the richness contained in *Hers3*. You may, for example, decide to start riding Muni at rush hour after you read the sensationally erotic "Tokyo Trains." Pat Schmatz creates a vivid character in Sabrina, the

train rider, who "considered her-self fortunate to have survived her childhood with her wits and perchildhood with her wits and per-sonality intact, and had been told by more than one professional that it was a miracle that she was not a sociopath." If you are think-ing about joining the lesbian baby boom, Peggy Munson's "Terato-phobia," a dark tale about the fear of giving birth to a monster, may just cause you furiously to rethink

of giving birth to a monster, may just cause you furiously to rethink the entire question.

Wolverton asked the "the woman who should be my girlfriend: What do you want to hear about the state of lesbian fiction today?" 'Just that people are still writing it,' she answers." Hers3 proves that people are doing just that, with skill and grace and power. Don't make the mistake of skipping Hers3. You'll be missing some of the best writing around. ▼



Aphrodite's All-Purpose Dog Wax in Moog Bandits Give Me the Clap

Fringe Fest

◄ page 31

"Aphrodite's All-Purpose Dog Wax," but they're not sure how to describe themselves.

describe themselves.

"People often call us an all-female comedy troupe, and that's
not accurate," said member Linda
Gillespie. "We're all double-X
chromosome, but not all female by identity. The press often calls us lesbian, and that's also not accurate. We're all queer, representing many different points on the sexual spectrum. It's hard to come

up with the right terminology."

The five members make their home in Victoria, B.C., a tidy town that caters to tourists and retirees.
"There isn't that much hip and new going on," Gillespie said, "and that's something we've had to deal with because we are somewhat on the controversial side. That's why we wanted to tour, to see the reaction in other cities.

The nine short sketches that make up *Moog Bandits* range from "the silly and surreal to the political to the sexual to the violent," Gillespie said. In the world according to Aphrodite, Sherlock Holmes and Watson are lovers, fe-

male-to-male transsexuality is celebrated in a Gilbert and Sullivan parody, and Jewish and SM cultures are brought together in

"We want to have fun," Gillespie said, "but the thing is, at least in Victoria, we live on the fringes of society with our opinions and our lifestyles, and our art reflects

All the members have other All the members have other identities, including student, clerk, farmer and tour guide. Gillespie is the tour guide, doing haunted walks in downtown Victoria telling tourists the local ghost stories. It sounds awfully straight for a queer artist.

"The tour is actually a history of the darker side of Victoria," she said, "We talk about all the nasty and dirty things, so in some ways

and dirty things, so in some ways it's quite subversive." ▼

The 8th annual San Francisco Fringe Festival runs through Sept. 19 on four Union Square-area stages. Tickets, \$8 and under, can purchased at performances only. A complete schedule is available at www.sffringe.org or by calling 673-3847



Out There

Bread & Wine: An Erotic Tale of New York, written by queer sci-fi author Samuel R. Delany and drawn by Mia Woolf. It's a departure for Nebula and Hugo award winner Delany, an autobiographical tale of meeting **Dennis**, who had been homeless and living on the streets of NYC for six years. The famous writer and the formerly destitute man have now lived together for

man have now lived together for more than seven years.

The comics format works, the drawings by children's book author Woolf complementing Delany's human story nicely. When the men have their first sexual encounter (Delany rents a motel room, and Dennis washes years of filth off), the pictures leave nothing about the details of oral sex to the imagination.

Ing about the decais of orange to the imagination.

In an afterword in which all of the principals of the story have their say, Dennis remarks about the picture of his coming in De-



From Bread & Wine

lany's mouth, "Man, you ain't never wasted that much in your life! I got that T-shirt last year, it says, 'Mean people suck. Nice people swallow.' Well, you're one of the nice people. But I guess that's what you call poetic license." ▼

Elizabeth Stark

◄ page **37**

I was raised devoutly atheist, with I was raised devoutly atheist, with a scientist father who was Jewish and a mother who was a Red Diaper baby, kind of Marxist. So I wasn't really raised with any religion. But I did have my Jewish grandmother and a peek into Judaism. As much as it wasn't a tradition I was raised with, it was definitely a culture I was raised in. I think my father has a lowe/hate. I think my father has a love/hate relationship with Judaism, so it's been important to me, but in a different way than had I been raised strictly religiously.

You write about the Holocaust survivor's mantras, "Never again," and "Never forget," and as a writer who is a member of yet another generation, as well as being a queer writer addressing the subject of the Holocaust, you are doing your part.

I've heard about a memoir that came out in the last few months, After Long Silence by Helen Fremont, written by a lesbian about being the child of survivors. For me, I learned an incredible amount of courage from the dykes I associate with. Particularly from my girlfriend and being around people who are really out all the time in a way that they can't slip in and out of. Also, my father had a nebulous relationship with Judaism and did slip in and out of it, and he lived in a time when it was I've heard about a memoir that and he lived in a time when it was dangerous to be out about being Jewish, especially because he was in academia. He went to Columbia when there was a quota for how many Jews were allowed in. There was an interesting contrast

between the kind of courage that I found with dykes and the kind of shame or fear that I saw in the way that he approached Judaism. But he also passed on to me the sense he also passed on to me the sense that there was something really great and important in Judaism. After saying how the novel is non-autobiographical, I think a lot of the lessons of the novel were lessons I'd learned.

There's something about the character Alta's courage that is profoundly inspiring. She has a kind of daily courage, and I tried to say that in the book. I'm intrigued by how people become something that absolutely isn't presented to them as an option.

Do you mean the way they gay community has invented the gay community?

Yeah. And on an individual level, too. I wonder how people go from their individual lives, where very their individual lives, where very few people get to grow up in a gay community or family, and get through that journey toward the gay community. How do they figure it out before they see that there's a community? I think it's somewhat different now, because the gay community, such as it is, is more public, and so people growing up now maybe do get to see that before they come out, but I don't think that's al-ways been the case. ways been the case

Alta makes a living doing piercings, so of course I have to ask if you have any piercings or tattoos.

My ears are pierced. But no, I don't I'm one of those people who dresses in a different fashion every day, so I don't think I have the consistency to pick something and live with it for the rest of my life.

Gay gumshoes

◆ page 41

monetary value

Both mysteries abound in strong supporting characters. Hunter's main one is Peter's mother Jean Reynolds, a British woman. Though a real lady, she is bright and sometimes kicks along the ac-tion briskly. Zubro's lawyer Todd is the epitome of cool reason and legal resources at Mason's disposal.

On one important point the two mystery novels are markedly different. Because Reynolds and company's main opponent is really a small, vicious gang of Thais who are members of the metayanan, a secret, thuggish branch of the normally placid Buddhists, Reynolds and cohorts live in fear of being attacked at any time. Consequently, Capital Queers is loaded with suspense.

Tom Mason must combat a

tangle of ill feeling extending over years. The other educators and their administrators started their animosities many semesters back, with petty conflicts over the PTA, and the teachers' union, and right-wing convictions complicating the relations — and the two murders.

But both novels keep a reader's

attention, and they raise the promise of further adventures. Both Reynolds and Mason have been the central figures in previ-ous novels and demonstrate here that they have the stuff to go many more. ▼

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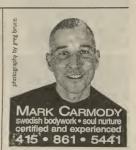
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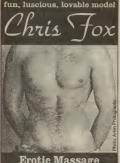


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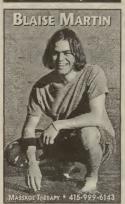
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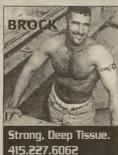
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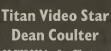
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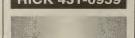






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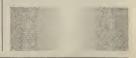
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